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1.00 p.m. to 2.00 " "	" " 15 "
2.00 " " 3.00 " "	" " 15 "
3.00 " " 4.00 " "	" " 15 "
4.00 " " 5.00 " "	" " 15 "
5.00 " " 6.00 " "	" " 15 "
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2.00 " " 3.00 " "	" " 15 "
3.00 " " 4.00 " "	" " 15 "
4.00 " " 5.00 " "	" " 15 "
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101	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	102	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
103	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	104	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
105	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	106	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
107	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	108	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
109	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	110	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
111	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	112	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
113	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	114	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
115	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	116	Dairen (11.00 a.m.)
117	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	118	Dairen (3.00 p.m.)
119	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	120	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
121	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	122	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
123	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	124	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
125	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	126	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
127	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	128	Dairen (11.00 a.m.)
129	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	130	Dairen (3.00 p.m.)
131	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	132	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
133	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	134	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
135	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	136	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
137	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	138	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
139	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	140	Dairen (11.00 a.m.)
141	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	142	Dairen (3.00 p.m.)
143	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	144	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
145	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	146	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
147	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	148	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
149	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	150	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
151	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	152	Dairen (11.00 a.m.)
153	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	154	Dairen (3.00 p.m.)
155	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	156	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
157	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	158	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
159	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	160	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
161	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	162	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
163	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	164	Dairen (11.00 a.m.)
165	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	166	Dairen (3.00 p.m.)
167	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	168	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
169	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	170	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
171	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	172	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
173	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	174	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
175	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	176	Dairen (11.00 a.m.)
177	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	178	Dairen (3.00 p.m.)
179	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	180	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
181	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	182	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
183	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	184	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
185	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	186	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
187	Shanghai (11.00 a.m.)	188	Dairen (11.00 a.m.)
189	Shanghai (3.00 p.m.)	190	Dairen (3.00 p.m.)
191	Shanghai (7.00 p.m.)	192	Dairen (7.00 p.m.)
193	Shanghai (11.00 p.m.)	194	Dairen (11.00 p.m.)
195	Shanghai (3.00 a.m.)	196	Dairen (3.00 a.m.)
197	Shanghai (7.00 a.m.)	198	Dairen (7.00 a.m.)
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PEKING NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

PEKING, January 11th.

POLITICAL.

The political situation is as obscure as ever it has been. At one time it seems as if a crisis were about to be precipitated, and then again it seems as if the country and the government would be allowed to blunder along as they have done for months. While alarming reports are circulated regarding the Conference at Haichow under the auspices of Chang Hsun, aided and abetted, perhaps, by the Vice-President Feng Kuo Chang, the President and the Premier indulge in "harmony" conferences. Wu Ting Fang pursues the even tenor of his way in negotiating with the French and Japanese Governments concerning the recent live issues in Tientsin and Manchuria; and Liang Chia Chao comes to Peking and receives a great welcome, creating another atmosphere altogether. Added to this is the talk—which, after all, is by no means uncommon—of Cabinet reconstruction involving a change of Premier and Minister of Finance. Then there is Parliament, which contains within itself the elements of drastic change as well as the elements of progressive constitutionalism.

Strongly worded telegrams from Haichow, in which the Vice-President and General Chang Hsun may express personal opinions, are expected. This, in ordinary circumstances, would indicate the *modus operandi* of the party who are opposed to the present Parliament and who desire its dissolution because of its futilities and obstructionist policy, but the Premier, who is understood to have connived at this conference as well as the previous one at Haichow, surprises most people by protesting against the illegality of such a conference. This may be "look see" pidgin. At any rate, it illustrates the tortuosities of modern Chinese politics and proves that things are not always what they seem.

Possibly Wu Ting Fang's influence is felt in the greater restraint observable on the part of the Premier or on the part of those who speak for him. Possibly, too, the visit of Liang Chia Chao is not unconnected with the changes now noted.

PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED.

The correspondent of the *P. & T. Times* had an interview with the President this week, which makes interesting but unconvincing reading. His Excellency had very little to say that was new, with the exception, perhaps, of his views as to the urgency of fostering education. Of course, it is only fair to His Excellency to point out that he has little opportunity of knowing the real opinion of the people, if they have any. He has only the vernacular papers to draw upon, and he knows perfectly well that these, being in factional hands, exaggerate when they do not actually misrepresent.

FISCAL YEAR.

The various ministries and departments enjoy drawing up elaborate rules and regulations, and nowhere is this better exemplified than in the changes which have taken place in the fixing of the fiscal year. At first it was arranged to run from July 1st to June 30th, but under Yuan Shih Kai's administration it was ordered to run from the 1st January to the 30th December. Now the original fiscal year has been restored by Parliament. This means that the Budget statements prepared for the present year beginning January have to be revised in accordance with the wishes of Parliament.

NO STATE RELIGION.

The Conference on Constitution has decided against a State religion for China. This does not actually dispose of the question altogether, as it may be submitted again at the second reading of the draft Constitution, but the decision is of value as providing that the general sense of Parliament is opposed to the establishment of Confucianism as a State religion.

MASONIC.

The installation of officers of the International Lodge and the presentation of the charter are to take place on Friday night. Chinese in the capital have become much interested in the mysteries of the ancient craft.

INTERESTING LECTURE.

Those who attended the first of a course of three lectures given by Miss

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

JAPAN'S MERCHANT
STEAMERS.PRINCIPAL SHIPPING CONCERNS
OF THE COUNTRY.

The total number of steamers on the Japanese register at the end of December was 445, with an aggregate gross tonnage of 1,428,212. The principal Japanese shipowners having in their possession vessels aggregating over 10,000 in gross tonnage are as follows, according to the *Manchuria Daily News*:

	No.	Tons.
Nippon Yusen Kaisha	98	450,289
Ozaka Shosen Kaisha	50	186,537
Toyo Kisen Kaisha	11	94,804
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	11	38,072
Nisshin Kisen Kaisha	12	20,663
Yamashita S.S. Co.	9	27,360
S. Nakamura	9	22,985
Tatsuma	7	18,348
Uchida	7	18,078
Hachiuma	7	18,608
Okazaki	6	18,362
Hakuda	6	18,380
G. Katsuda	5	17,100
Kishimoto	4	16,185
Mitsui Bishi Co.	4	16,004
Dept. of Agri. and Comm.	5	14,896
M. Naruse	3	13,076
Financial Dept.	4	12,221
N. Hiroumi	4	11,601
K. Kusakabe	6	10,425

In addition, vessels registered in the Kwantung Leased Territory total 62 (over 1,000 tons gross), with 196,598 in gross tonnage. The Japanese shipping companies of Dairen, which have fleets aggregating over 10,000 in gross tonnage, are as follows:

Kishimoto S.S.	7	30,883
Ryoto Kisen Kaisha	5	20,088
Tatsuma & Co.	3	11,998
Dairen Kisen Kaisha	6	10,674
Kawachi & Co.	3	10,662

FIGHTING IN FORMOSA.

ABORIGINES ON THE WARPATH.

On the morning of the 8th instant a party of Japanese and native policemen stationed at Tandu (Formosa) went to a mountain stream near by to obtain water, when they were ambushed by a large number of aborigines (says the *Japan Chronicle*). Two native officers were killed and two Japanese wounded, but the party succeeded in retreating to the station. Here the police have barricaded themselves against attack by the aborigines, who number 50 or more. On receipt of the news of the trouble a rescue party was at once despatched from the Shushu branch station. As there is every indication of the hostile force being augmented, the Formosa authorities have ordered the despatch of strong reinforcements to relieve the besieged.

NEW RUSSIAN CONSULATE AT
SHANGHAI.

The new Russian Consulate General at Shanghai was opened on the 14th inst., being the Russian New Year's Day, by Prince Koudasheff, the Russian Minister in Peking. After a religious ceremony a largely attended reception was held. The new building forms a striking addition to the architectural features of Shanghai. It is a of stone and concrete blocks containing about 150 rooms, with a main entrance on the Astor Road and a private entrance on the Whangpoo Road. In addition to the Consular offices, there is a Court Room and a large assembly hall for public meetings. The dining room is about 100 ft. long by about 40 ft. wide and is capable of accommodating 100 people at dinner. A large drawing-room is adjacent, decorated in a pretty pearly-grey shade and with furniture specially imported from Russia. Leading from this is a winter garden with a large white marble fountain in the centre. The third floor is given over to bed and bath rooms and suites of rooms for the vice-consuls and secretary.

Jessie Ackermann, the famous American traveller and journalist, in the Wagon Lite Hotel on Monday night, were warmly rewarded for forsaking home comforts and facing the icy cold wind. The Chinese Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Wu Ting Fang, acted as chairman, and his introduction of the lady lecturer was short, pithy and bright. Miss Ackermann, who is a very fluent speaker, took for her subject "Famous people I have met," and her reminiscences and impressions of Tagore, Tolstoy, Stead, Olive Schreiner, Cecil Rhodes, etc., were absorbingly interesting. The lectures are being given in aid of the Home for Destitute Chinese Women in Peking.

ARCTIC CONDITIONS.

The many prophecies foretelling a severe winter are being generously fulfilled. The continuous piercing north wind raises clouds of dust which sweeps along the streets, causing much discomfort to those unfortunate enough to be out of doors. Even indoors it is impossible to be free from dust and grime. With the thermometer in the vicinity of zero, water pipes frozen, bottles bursting, ink having to be melted before it can be used, and heaps of dusty frozen snow lying about, conditions can hardly be described as pleasant. Still, skating enthusiasts are making the most of the time, and in the excitement of ice hockey and other skating games the cold and dust are forgotten.

There is the tragic side of winter to be remembered. Hundreds of people succumb in the capital to the cold, and efforts are being made to alleviate the distress of the unfortunates who are exposed to the full rigours of the weather.

TOMMY'S CLOTHES IN PARIS.
SAVING A MILLION POUNDS
A YEAR.

[BY W. L. MCALPIN.]

The French have always held the opinion that the English are an essentially practical people.

Considering what champion muddlers we are, I have sometimes wondered where we got our reputation. Not long ago I overheard a highly placed British officer denouncing our "d— waste and inefficiency."

But if in some War Office departments we formerly wasted the public money in a shameful manner, it is comforting to know that in others we now effect remarkable economy.

I have been privileged by General Headquarters to visit two important Army Ordnance depots in Paris.

Organised saving is the Alpha and Omega of their entire system—a system which never existed in any previous war. The chief Ordnance officer, who courteously explained the working of the system and took me through the establishment at Pantin, told me that in March, 1915, when he first tackled the big problem of handling the British Army's cast-off uniforms, he and sixteen men stood on the Quai de Javel in a vast roofless building, which was about to be pulled down, and wondered where they should begin. The Army had already started dumping down the floats and jetsam from the front, and the necessity of hustling was evident.

In this dilemma an ex-Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal volunteered and joined the colonel a few days later, and they set to work. A few weeks afterwards an ex-High Commissioner of Siam insisted on giving a hand. He was, he said, a much younger man than the Governor of Bengal and should certainly be employed. He also joined the staff.

All three put their shoulders to the wheel and began the task of sorting out Tommy's old clothes. How well they have done their job is apparent from these figures:

Between April 1st, 1915, and January 15th, 1916, the saving effected by the Ordnance Depot, Paris, amounted to the handsome sum of £423,889—say, £424,000 a month—after paying all expenses. A subsequent balance-sheet shows that from January 16th of this year to the end of May the A.O.D. (Army Ordnance Department) made a further profit of £222,542. During the first fourteen months of its existence the Ordnance Clothing Salvage Depot in Paris saved the British taxpayer nearly £650,000, or over £46,000 a month. The saving for 1916 will not be less than one million sterling.

STRICTLY BUSINESS METHODS.

How has it been done? By intelligence and energy and the application of strictly business principles. When the wagon-loads of soiled, blood-stained, and tattered uniforms roll into the railway siding in the yard at Javel they are immediately discharged into the Ordnance warehouse, sorted out, cleaned, disinfected, renovated and repaired by about 140 N.C.'s and men of the A.O.D. and 500 women. All bloodstained garments and those too soiled or worn to be serviceable are scrapped and packed off to Dewsbury, where as ragas they sometimes fetch as much as £85 a ton. The other things are sent out to cleaning contractors, and when they come back the women take them in hand and deal with them so effectively that they are resorted to the men in the field almost as good as new.

Fur undercoats are subjected to much the same cleaning process as ordinary furs, but very large revolving drums are used. There was no establishment in Paris large enough to do the work, so the A.O.D. decided to do it itself. The fur-cleaning installation at Javel is said to be the biggest in the world.

Last summer the staff cleaned and repaired hundreds of thousands of fur undercoats, leather jerkins, and sheepskin-lined coats for motor-car drivers. Blankets washed and mended ran into millions.

The nature of the economies realised is evident from the fact that riding-breeches cost 24s. 6d. a pair. They can, however, be washed and repaired for 1s. 1d. a pair. A very considerable saving is effected in fur-lined coats also. Nine cleaning drums, with a triple staff, each working eight hours at a stretch, clean and disinfect 9,000 jerkins or 7,000 fur coats in twenty-four hours.

The A.O.D. has been very fortunate in the female labour required to do its work. The women are paid 2s. 9d., and those at the sewing machines make 3s. 3d. a day. I heard nothing but good of the *overseers*. They are hard-working, conscientious, self-respecting, and cheerful. As one officer said: "They do not smoke, they do not drink, and they like their work." They are always neat and clean. The young girls, being Frenchwomen, are inclined to be coquettish, and as I passed through the workshops I noticed that most of them wore pink, blue, and green mantillas on their heads, made out of first-class dressings of sterilised gauze found in Tommy's pockets. These keep the dust out of their hair, and they are certainly becoming.

Some of them had donned Service jackets with little Union Jacks sewn on them by the previous owners. One daring young woman had attained the grade of sergeant. The stripes were there to prove it. Her neighbour had a British soldier's cap set jauntily on her head.

On a piece of waste ground adjoining the warehouse *demonstrable* extension sheds (that can be taken to pieces) have just been erected. Light, comfortable, and cheerful, they accommodate about 450 sewing-women. The sheds cost about £4,000 to put up, but the savings of six months' work will more than cover this amount, and when their usefulness is at an end the sheds can be sold, taken down, and erected elsewhere.

At Pantin, what was formerly a bleak, deserted tramway depot is now a chery hive of industry devoted to the repair of Army gum-boots, those handy indiarubber seven-leagued boots which make it possible for our soldiers to spend hours in the trenches with water up to their knees without losing their habitual good spirits. When the gum-boots, filthy and

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

MUSKETRY COURSE, 1917, PART I.

The names, with their respective scores, of the 25 men who on Sunday, Jan. 21st, qualified for Part II, are posted at Headquarters Club. The six highest scores (out of a possible 75) were:

1. P.-e. 570 J. E. Roche	70
2. P.-e. 750 F. E. Remedios	66
3. Staff Inspector Langan	66
P.-e. 501 J. A. Barradas	64
4. P.-e. 745 J. A. Gutierrez	62
781 C. A. Rodrigues	62
5. P.-e. 561 Antonio	61
6. P.-e. 533 J. M. Ribeiro	60

NOS. 3 AND 4 COMPANIES.

All Recruits and all members who did not fire (or failed to pass) Part II. of the 1916 Course are provisionally warned to attend the Range on Sunday next, Jan. 28th. They will leave as follows:

No. 3 Company, leave Blake Pier at 9 a.m. sharp, returning from Stonecutters at about 1.45 p.m.

No. 4 Company, leave Blake Pier at 1.15 p.m. sharp.

Those in possession of new Winchester Carbines will take them on to the Range. All others will have Rifles issued to them on the Range.

POLICE SCHOOL.

Thursday, Jan. 25th.—Staff Class and Class II.

Friday, Jan. 26th.—Class I. (Inspector Gerrard) and Class III. (Inspector Grant).

Note.—Members will attend in uniform and provide their own writing material.

PARADES, 5.30 P.M.

Friday, Jan. 26th.—All Recruits of Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 Companies under the Sergt.-Major.

Monday, Jan. 29th.—No. 2 Company, Maxim Gunners, All Recruits.

Tuesday, Jan. 30th.—Nos. 3 and 4 Companies, Ambulance Platoon, and Buglers and Drummers.

Wednesday, Jan. 31st.—All Recruits.

Friday, Feb. 2nd.—No. 1 Company.

The above Company Parades will be taken by the D.S.F. (R.).

CONCERTS.

Thursday, Jan. 25th.—Practice at Club Lusitano at 8 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 26th.—Practice at Club Lusitano at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 30th.—6 p.m.

(Sgd.) F. C. JENKIN, D.S.F. (R.)

January 22nd, 1917.

DEATH OF THE ACTING SECRETARY OF SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

The death occurred, from typhoid fever, at the Shanghai Municipal Hospital on the 13th inst., of Mr. John Bernard A. Mackinnon, Acting Secretary of the Shanghai Municipal Council. Mr. Mackinnon came out to China to join the Indian Staff of the Chinese Maritime Customs in 1902. In March, 1905, he was appointed Senior Assistant Secretary to the Shanghai Municipal Council. He was Acting Secretary on several occasions and held the latter post since the departure on home leave of the Secretary, Mr. W. E. Leveson. Mr. Mackinnon was a brilliant linguist. He was a member of the Shanghai, Country and Race Clubs, and a keen rider, both in Paper Hunts and occasionally at Kiangwan. Testimony to the high esteem in which the deceased, who was only 37 years of age, was held was borne at the funeral, which was attended by a very large concourse of people.

At an Examination in First Aid, held recently under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association, the following were successful:—Chau Kwong-shing, Ho Tak-chiu, Lo Kwok-nin, Lai Li-him, Li Shau-wo, Lo Kwok-lun, Leung Chau-king, Mak Wai-man, So Chau-fai, Sun I-tung, Sun I-yik, Tso Chung-leung, Wu I-nam, Wong Yik-hon, and Young Ming-tat. Dr. Lim Soon-kian was Hon. Lecturer to the Class, and Dr. S. F. Lee acted as Hon. Examiner.

wet and covered with mud, began to arrive in May last the question was how to wash and especially dry 2,000 boots a day. The best any Parisian could do was to dry a boot in four hours. That would not do. The A.O.D. has so successfully grappled with this problem that it dries a boot in ten minutes.

This triumph, beyond the capacity of any firm in Paris, was achieved by a temporary lieutenant of the department, who invented an apparatus by which, after the boots are washed, they are stuck on the end of an upright pipe, through which hot air from a radiator is forced into them, absorbing the moisture and drying them at the rate of half a dozen boots an hour. If the boots are "unservicable," the rubber is separated from the leather and used to patch other boots, and the straps and buckles come in handy for refitting those missing elsewhere—the really unservicable boots are sold as old rubber and fetch a good price.

In this depot there are about twenty men of the A.O.D., who do the soiling and healing, and 170 women, who do the patching. When sized and paired the gum-boots are packed and despatched as required to the base. From the time it is washed until it is ready to go out the actual cost of labour on a boot is three-pence. That does not include the price of material. By the introduction of piecework the output was increased about 50 per cent.

Over 2,000 boots are repaired daily. At its period of greatest activity the Pantin depot was faced with the task of dealing with many thousands of pairs of gum-boots.

So satisfactory are the results obtained by the Pantin staff on rubber work that they are laying down a special washing and drying plant to deal with rubber ground sheets and water-proof capes during next summer by the million.—*Daily Mail*.

ANCHORS OF THE "HUE." CHARGE AGAINST CHIEF OFFICER.

The hearing was resumed at the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday of the charge of the theft of two ship's anchors, belonging to the s.s. *Hue*, preferred against M. Balsutia, chief officer of the *Hue*. The anchors are valued at \$500, and it is alleged that defendant sold them to a marine hawk for \$100. Mr. F. C. Jenkin defended, and the case for the prosecution was conducted by Mr. C. McI. Messer (Hon. C.S.P.). Mr. Davidson watched the case on behalf of a marine hawk.

The Captain of the *Hue* was cross-examined by Mr. Jenkin. The *Hue* arrived in Hongkong on the 8th inst. At this time his chief officer was the defendant, and the second officer was a man named Martinson. Prior to this arrival the *Hue* left Hongkong on December 30th, defendant's wife accompanied him on the trip, and witness after also joined the vessel at Haiphong. After the ship arrived in Hongkong witness went ashore, leaving both officers on board. He could not say whether defendant's wife remained on board, nor whether he himself went on board the *Hue* on the 9th or 10th, and he missed the anchors on the 11th. Mr. Jenkin. And Inspector Gordon received the report that the anchors were missing on the 10th.

Witness. That was a telephone message from the office. He added that he was the first to notice that the anchors were missing, and that was on the 11th, and if Inspector Gordon received the report on the 10th that seemed impossible. He only missed them on the 11th, when he was taking an inventory.

Mr. Jenkin. These special dates are more than a joke to my client, Captain. I can assure you; it is no laughing matter.

Further questioned on this point, the Captain was unable to give a definite date, and Mr. Wood said the Court would assume that the anchors were missed on the 10th inst.

Witness went on to say that defendant was not on board when the anchors were found to be missing.

When questioning witness with regard to the description he gave of the anchors, Mr. Jenkin, in reply to the Magistrate, said there was considerable doubt as to whether the anchors outside the Court were those which had been missed from the *Hue*. It was very important to find what description the Captain gave of the anchors to Sgt. Pincott.

The Captain was handed a small document, which asked for the supply of oil, rope, etc., to the *Hue*, and was signed "Chief Officer Martinson," and in reply to Mr. Jenkin, witness said that Martinson was not Chief Officer and he (witness) knew nothing about the oil, rope, etc. The document was handed to him in the saloon; someone "may have been scared," Martinson did not do much writing on the ship, and he could not say if he could identify Martinson's handwriting, "he has so many different kinds of handwriting."

Mr. Jenkin. That is very interesting at any rate; and it is what we think, Captain. And Captain, if I knew the Latin for "I don't know" I would recommend it to you as a family motto. (Laughter.) You always say "I don't know," and then you go on and tell me something.

Mr. McI. Messer here mentioned that he had discovered that the Captain of the *Hue* reported that the anchors were missing on the 11th inst., not the 10th, so the Captain was right in regard to that date.

Mr. Jenkin then intimated that his defence was that the handwriting on a certain document, which was said to be defendant's, was not his, and that defendant was convinced that it was in the handwriting of a man called Martinson, who was defendant's junior on the *Hue*; he was the second officer. Also, that the handwriting on another document was similar to that on the other document alleged by defendant to have been written by Martinson. It would also be shown that Martinson had had a bent for getting hold of the ship's stores before, and evidence would be called as to that fact—and the defendant was to some extent responsible for discovering Martinson's previous getting hold of the ship's stores. A further defence would be that defendant was on duty on the ship on the 10th, that Martinson was on duty on the 9th, and that it was on the 9th that the arrangement for the sale of the anchors took place. That would be added in evidence.

Mr. McI. Messer said he had endeavoured to get hold of Martinson, but it seemed he was away that day. He would try to get him to come forward to give evidence.

Sgt. Pincott spoke to arresting defendant in the harbour. When charged with the theft of the anchors defendant said, "If you will detain my ship for an hour, and I can see the Captain of the *Hue*, I will explain." Witness also referred to a conversation between the Captain of the *Hue*, and other gentlemen, during which witness was asked to withdraw the charge. Witness said that before this could be done he would need an indemnifying letter asking for the charge to be withdrawn. Defendant said, "The owner of the boat will not give you this letter, but I will; I will also deposit \$250 here in the station to compensate the sampan people." The hearing was again adjourned.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY. SHIP'S OFFICER CHARGED.

James Cooper, a ship's second officer, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Nathan Road, Kowloon, but upon the application of Mr. Goldring the case was remanded, bail being fixed at \$250. Mr. Goldring also intimated that he desired to take out a summons for assault against the Police.

MUNITIONS ON THE "MONTEAGLE."

Eight Winchester rifles, eight Mauser pistols and 1,500 rounds of ammunition were found on board the *Monteagle* on Saturday by Detective Sgt. Fowler. A Chinese was charged before Mr. Melbourn with importing the same, but was remanded on the application of Mr. F. X. D'Almada. Bail was fixed at \$700.

BURGLARS BUSY AT KOWLOON.

There have been several burglaries in Kowloon during the past few weeks, and in some cases, no clues have been found. Between the 8th and 8th inst., when it was dark, Chater Bungalow, Nathan Road, occupied by Mr. A. W. Heron, was entered and various property, including clocks, watches, money, etc., valued at \$311, was stolen. On the night of the 16th inst. the cook-house at "Rockville," Kimberley Road, occupied by Mr. Curry, was broken into, and most of the cooking utensils were taken away.

Yesterday three men were charged with being concerned in the burglaries by Inspector Gordon, and a man and woman were charged with receiving certain of the goods. The three men pleaded guilty and were each sentenced to six months' hard labour and five hours stocks in lieu of the last day.

The man and woman were remanded for more evidence to be obtained. They both deny any connection with the thefts, though some of the stolen property was found in the house which they occupied.

SMALL-POX IN HONGKONG.

During the week ending January 20th, 83 cases of small-pox (one Japanese and the rest Chinese, one being imported) were reported in the Colony, of which number 63 proved fatal.

SPORT. ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL. VOLUNTEERS v. R.G.A.

For this match, to be played on the Club ground to-morrow (Wednesday), commencing at 4 p.m., the Volunteers will be represented by the following:—Goldenberg, Black and McCubbin; Ralston, Stewart, and Ralston; Walker, Robinson, Stalker, McTavish, and Rodger.

COMPANY REPORT. UNION WATERBOAT CO., LTD.

Subject to audit, the Consulting Committee of the Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., will recommend the payment of a dividend of \$1.25 per share, absorbing \$34,633.75; writing \$15,000 off waterboats, \$500 off pipes and staging, \$1,000 off investments, and carrying forward a balance of \$9,221.31.

The Consulting Committee have also in contemplation the reduction of the Company's capital from \$277,230 to \$104,061, which will probably be effected by returning to shareholders the sum of \$3 in respect of each share held by them, thus reducing the face value of each share from \$10 to \$7.

SHANGHAI AND THE MAN-POWER QUESTION.

An advertisement signed by Sir E. H. Fraser, H.B.M. Consul-General in Shanghai, appears in the *N.C. Daily News*, instructing the heads of British firms, "other than one-man concerns" to submit, in confidence, immediately:—(1) A return of all British members of their firms. The return should be arranged in order of value of the various members to the firm; so that, should conscription be introduced at any time, the necessary data will already be filed.

(2) A return of those members of their firm who can at once be spared for military service or similar employment without actual dislocation of the firm's business. In the case of firms having branches elsewhere in China, this return should include any such employees elsewhere.

JAPAN'S SPINNING INDUSTRY.

The number of spindles of the Japanese spinning industry prior to the war was estimated at 1,500,000; to-day (says the *Japan Advertiser*) it is given at 2,763,000, and it is believed that before long the number will reach 5,000,000. Before the war England led all countries with 63,650,000 spindles; the United States had 31,550,000; Germany 11,186,000; Russia 9,212,000; and France 7,400,000. Since the outbreak of the war Japan has taken over a large portion of the world's markets and, further, has replaced German goods in England.

THE STRAITS AND ACTIVE SERVICE.

PROCEDURE IN DEALING WITH APPLICATIONS.

With reference to the notice recently issued in the Press regarding the appointment of Man-power Advisory Committees in the various Settlements, it has been decided (says *The Straits Times*) that every man who desires to offer his services for the war should first of all undergo medical examination.

Applications for medical examination will not be considered from men over the military age limit, which is at present 41. For the present, applications for war service will not be considered from men who fail to pass the medical examination as "Class A," which is "fit for active service in any capacity anywhere."

Medical officers have been appointed in Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

If the applicant is certified to be permanently unfit for any service, he may apply to the Man-power Committee for a formal certificate to that effect, on which the Medical Officer's reasons for rejection will be recorded.

If the applicant is certified to be fit for service (Class "A"), but is not prepared to prove that he is a free agent, he may apply to the Advisory Committee for his application to be enquired into. On the disposal of the case:—

(1)—He will receive a formal certificate stating that in the opinion of the Advisory Committee he can be spared; or, if he satisfies the committee that he is a free agent, this will also be stated, or

(2)—He will receive a formal certificate stating that in the opinion of the Advisory Committee:—

(1)—He is serving the interests of his country best for the present in his present occupation (reasons to be recorded briefly), or that

(2)—He cannot be spared for the present, but that it should be possible for his employer to replace him by a man ineligible for military service within a certain number of months from date of certificate, or that

(3)—His offer of service should not be accepted for the present, on grounds connected with his dependants.

If the applicant is certified to be fit for service (Class "A"), and is prepared to prove that he is a free agent, his application will be forwarded to Military Headquarters on the prescribed forms ("A"—Military, and "B"—Private), together with his medical certificate.

All applicants will be required to volunteer for military service "in any capacity," but they may state on their application forms ("A"—Military) whether they wish to offer themselves for training for commissioned service or for Commissions in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers, and the General Officer Commanding will recommend such applications as he may think fit, although candidates should note that his recommendation carries no guarantee of acceptance.

Those in need of an assisted passage to England will, on the recommendation of the General Officer Commanding, be given a letter to the Colonial Secretary, certifying (i) that the applicant is recommended for military service, (ii) that he has been passed as medically fit (Class "A"), (iii) that he is in need of assistance in the opinion of the General Officer Commanding, and (iv) that he is free to go. This letter will be supported by a copy of his medical certificate, and, where possible, by a written statement from his employer or a certificate from the committee, both for the retention of the Colonial Secretary.

On presentation of this letter to the Second Assistant Colonial Secretary, the applicant will be given a letter for presentation to the steamship company, who will credit him with £30 towards the cost of his passage.

Employers are reminded that the Advisory Committees have been appointed by Government for their benefit as well as that of their employees. Certificates will be issued, if desired, by the committee to an employer stating that in their opinion his staff has been reduced to the minimum in the circumstances of the moment, and that it is not (or is) advisable for him to try and replace any of his able-bodied men who would be otherwise available for military service.

WAR TAXATION IN THE STRAITS. TOBACCO AND LIQUOR DUTIES INCREASED.

At the last meeting of the Straits Settlements Legislative Council the Tobacco Duties (Amendment) Bill was introduced by the Attorney-General and passed through all stages. In proposing the first reading the Attorney-General said it was proposed to increase the present duty by fifty per cent., except in the case of native and the cheaper European tobacco. The duty on these brands would not be increased at all. On first-class cigars the duty would in future be 3s. 3d. a pound instead of 3s. 6d., on the second-class variety 2s. 7d. and on the third class 11d. With regard to tobacco the duty would be 2s. 7d. on the first-class variety, 11d. on the second, and 2d. on the third; and in the case of cigarettes it would be 3s. 7d. on the first-class and 11d. on the second. The corresponding duties in England were 10s. 6d. on cigars without distinction of class, 6s. and 7s. 4d. on tobacco, and 8s. 6d. on cigarettes, so it could be seen they had not even approached the duties levied at home.

On the motion of the Attorney-General the Council adopted a scheme of increased duties in the case of intoxicating liquors, the increase in each case being at the rate of twenty-five per cent. The Attorney-General said the new duties suggested were already in force in the F.M.S., and it was convenient that the duties in the Colony should be the same.

Mrs. Jellicoe, who died at the age of 82, at Northfield, George Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight, and who was the mother of Admiral Jellicoe, left £1,396.

JOINT MEDICAL CONFERENCE IN CANTON.

[FROM OUR MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT.]

We learn that, owing to the delayed departure of the s.s. *China* from Shanghai, the forthcoming Joint Conference of the National Medical Association of China and Medical Missionary Association has been postponed till January 24th (2nd day of Chinese New Year), so as to enable the delegates from the north to arrive in time.

In the meantime, the various Committees have been kept busy. A most encouraging feature is the great interest shown by the Civil Governor of Kwangtung in the preparations. His Excellency will attend the opening ceremony on Wednesday, January 24th, and deliver an address of welcome, the next evening he will entertain all the foreign and Chinese delegates to a grand banquet at the Oriental Hotel. On the 27th, the delegates will be entertained to dinner at the Roof Garden of the Sincere Company by the local branches of the N.M.A. and C.M.M.A. Receptions and tea parties will be held at the Haast Women's Medical College, Kwong Wah Hospital, Canton Christian College, and the Government Hospital. It is expected that lady doctors, who form a considerable portion of the medical practitioners in Canton, will take an active part in this Conference. Almost all the sessions will be held in the new Y.M.C.A. buildings on the Bund. It is expected that nearly 100 delegates will attend the Conference. The following is the principal part of the programme:—

Wednesday, Jan. 24th:—

2-4 p.m. Open Session.
Address by Dr. Wu Lien Teh, President of N.M.A.

Address by Dr. W. H. Venable, President of C.M.M.A. Business Sessions.

8 p.m. Reception to delegates and friends at the Y.M.C.A.
Addresses of welcome by H.E. the Governor of Canton, Dr. H. Cheng (President of the Kwangtung branch of N.M.A.) and Dr. Todd, President of South China Branch of C.M.M.A.).

Thursday, Jan. 25th:—

9-12.30 Contributed Papers.

1. Hospital Efficiency, by Dr. Mary Griescom.
2. Standardisation in Hospital Work, by Dr. H. S. Houghton.
3. Work of the China Medical Board, by Mr. R. S. Greene.

2-4 p.m. Reports of the C.M.M.A. Research Committees.
1. Pelvic and Foetal Measurements, by Dr. M. S. Garner.
2. The Circulation, by Dr. E. H. Hume.

3. Height, Weight and Chest Measurements, by Dr. G. D. Whyte.
4. Report of Council on Public Health, by Dr. H. S. Houghton.
8 p.m. Banquet given by H.E. the Governor of Canton.

Friday, Jan. 26th:—

9-12.30 Papers on Medical Colleges, by Dr. T. Gillis.
Further Development of Public Health Work, by Dr. W. W. Peter.
Medical Terminology, by Dr. C. V. Fui.

2.30-4. Visit to the Asylum to listen to demonstrations by Drs. Seldon and Hoffmann.

8-10 p.m. Papers on:
1. The Nature of Plague Protozoa, by Dr. F. Ebersson.
2. Placenta Previa, by Dr. R. M. Gibson.

3. Leprosy and the State, by Dr. H. Fowler.
4. Autopsy, by Dr. J. H. Liu.
5. Diabetes, by Dr. H. G. Earle.

Saturday, Jan. 27th:—

9-12.30. Papers on:
1. Notes on Subepithelial lymphatic glands, by Dr. K. Digby.
2. Appendicitis in Asiatics, by Dr. C. Hedblom.

3. Spinal Anaesthesia with Propocain, by Dr. H. Cheng.
4. Gunshot Injuries, by Dr. W. G. Reynolds.
5. Pyonephrosis, by Dr. H. J. Chen.

6. Strangulated Hernia, by Dr. W. B. Russell.
7. Two Case Reports, by Dr. J. Preston Maxwell.

7 p.m. Banquet given by the local branches of N.M.A. and C.M.M.A.

Sunday, Jan. 28th:—

5.30 p.m. Union Service at the Y.M.C.A. Auditorium, led by Dr. W. H. Venable, President of C.M.M.A.

Monday, Jan. 29th:—

9-12.30.
1. The Menace of Morphine, by Dr. Wu Lien Teh.
2. Medical Evangelisation, by Dr. Isabel Patton.

3. Training of Nurses in China, by Dr. Mary James.
4. Asclepias, by Dr. W. W. Cadbury.
5. Splenomegalia, by Dr. Fungio Lee.

6. Hoopworm Control in China, by Dr. E. H. Hume.
7. Alcoholism, Lead Poisoning, etc., by Dr. W. H. Park.

8. Hookworm-Trachoma Conspiracy, by Drs. K. Y. Wong and J. F. Lee.
2.30-4.30. Opening of the Public Health Campaign in Canton. For this work the Civil Governor has contributed \$500.

7-10 Session for papers in Chinese.
Tuesday, Jan. 30th:—

9-12. Business Session.
Election of Officers.
Reports of Sub-Committees.

1 p.m. Conference ends.
The s.s. *China* is expected to leave Hongkong again on Jan. 31st, and the above arrangements have been made to suit the convenience of all concerned. The above programme is only tentative.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

JUST UNPACKED:

FOLDING CAMP FURNITURE.

CAMP BEDS.

COMBINATION COT AND TENTS.

TENTS. WASHSTANDS.

CAMP STOOLS AND

RECLINING CHAIRS.

FOLDING LUNCHEON BASKETS.

WATER BAGS, TABLES.

MOSQUITO NETS AND BLANKETS.

CARRYING AND SLEEPING BAGS.

WATERPROOF GROUND SHEETS

AND

EVERY REQUISITE FOR CAMPING.

INSPECTION INVITED. PRICES MODERATE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

DRINK "BULL DOG" LAGER BEER. SUPERIOR TO ANY GERMAN LAGER BEER EVER BREWED. BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

Brewed in Great Britain.

Bottled by British Labour.

OBTAINABLE AT:—

Wing On Co., Ltd.

Sincere Co., Ltd.

Sun Co., Ltd.

Cheong Tai.

Nam Hing Loong.

Ty Sing.

Sang Tai.

Kwan Tye.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Obtainable in Canton from

SINCERE Co., Ltd.

Stocked by

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.



FRESH STOCKS JUST ARRIVED.

[94-2

Wm. Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 346

CABINETS,
SIDEBOARDS,
BUREAUX,
BOOKCASES,
BEDROOM SUITES
IN
PERIOD STYLES.

LATEST PRODUCTIONS

IN

AXMINSTER, WILTON AND
ART CARPETS.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.

MR. TSUI YUING-SHAN (徐仰山)
has been appointed to act as one of the
Comptrollers in Hongkong, and will take up
duties as such from this date.
ABDOOLALLY EBBAHIM & Co.,
79, Wyndham Street.
Hongkong, 23rd January, 1917. 212

TO LET.

SIX ROOMED HOUSE, "FAIRVIEW,"
3, Robinson Road. Immediate possession.
Apply—
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[214]

TO LET.

**FURNISHED or UNFURNISHED (or
for Sale), No. 5, Broadwood Road (Pow-
Ma-Ti Bungalow), containing 7 Rooms with
Tennis Court and Lawn and Kitchen Garden
behind.**
Apply to—
G. K. H. BRUTTON,
York Building.
[215]

UNION WATERBOAT COMPANY,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of Messrs. DODWELL & COMPANY, LIMITED, on SATURDAY, the 3rd February, 1917, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers together with a statement of accounts to 31st December, 1916.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 27th January to 3rd February, both dates inclusive.

LODWELL & CO., LTD.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1917. [213]

NOTICE.

WE have This Day authorized Mr. GEORGE ERNEST WETTON to Sign our Firm for Procurement.
H. SKOTT & Co.,
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1917. 207

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the UNION TRADING COMPANY of No. 3, Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, that on and after this date and until further notice Mr. S. M. CHUEN and Mr. C. HONKEY are the only Managers of the Firm and no person except them has any authority to sign any instrument or document on behalf of the Firm. The Public is requested to bring to the Firm's notice any instrument or document purporting to be made by the Firm whether before or after this date which is not signed by either the said S. M. CHUEN or the said C. HONKEY.

THE UNION TRADING Co.,
Hongkong, 19th January, 1917. [198]

G. R. R.
SANITARY BOARD OFFICE,
HONGKONG.

To the OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS.

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 5 of the DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS and VENTILATION BYE-LAWS (as amended), every Domestic Building or part of such Building within the CENTRAL Division of the City of Victoria, and the WESTERN Division of Kowloon, occupied by Members of more than one family, except those within the European Reservation or in Kowloon South of Austin Road or those parts of a Domestic Building used as a Shop, Office or Godown, must be CLEANSED and LIMED/WASHED THROUGHOUT by the owners during the months of December and January.

N.B.—The word "throughout" used in this Notice means that the House should be limed/washed in respect of all the Walls of each Room, all Ceilings, Partitions, Stair Casings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and the Undersides of Roofs in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard must have its containing Walls limed/washed up to the level of the First Floor. Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be limed/washed, but must be limed/washed.

The CENTRAL Division of the City lies between Gilean Street and Peel Street on the East and Tank Lane and Cleverly Street on the West.

Kowloon is divided into the Eastern and Western Divisions by Nathan Road and a straight line drawn from the North end through the 1st and 2nd Service Reservoir to the Northern Boundary of Kowloon.

Dated this 19th day of January, 1917.

ADAM GIBSON,
Secretary. [205]

G. R. R.
WAR DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the Headquarters Office, Victoria Barracks, Hongkong, for the undesignated Services, until 12 o'clock Noon on the dates stated—

Fuel and Washing, 16th February, 1917.
Forage and Indian Supplies, 28th Feb., 1917.
Meat and General Supplies "A," 22nd Feb., 1917.

Hospital Supplies, 1st March, 1917.
General Supplies "B," 2nd March, 1917.

Forms and other particulars may be obtained personally at the above Office between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tender Forms must be properly filled up, signed and dated, and delivered in a sealed envelope marked "TENDER FOR FORAGE," etc.

Tenders must be, and will not be entertained unless accompanied by a deposit of \$100 as a guarantee of good faith, such sum to be forfeited to the State if the tenderer fails to attend at the Headquarters Office, after twenty-four hours' notice in writing being left at the tenderer's address, or fails to send in samples within twenty-four hours of written application being left at the said address, or refuses to accept a contract allotted to him.

The right to reject all, or any, tenders is specially reserved.

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PUBLIC COMPANIES

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF
CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE CERTIFICATES, Nos. 243, 244, 245 and 246, for Five Shares each, \$25 paid up, Nos. 2601/2620, standing in the Register in the name of AMMERBROXY HABIBBROXY, having been declared LOST, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that unless the said Certificates be produced to the Society on or before the Twelfth day of April, 1917, new Certificates for the said Shares will be issued and the old Certificates will thereafter be held by the Society as null and void.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1917. 176

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE CERTIFICATE, No. 888, for Five Shares, Nos. 14576/15580, standing in the Register in the name of AMMERBROXY HABIBBROXY, having been declared LOST, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that unless the said Certificate be produced to the Company on or before the Twelfth day of April, 1917, a new Certificate for the said Shares will be issued and the old Certificate will thereafter be held by the Company as null and void.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
C. MONTAGUE EDE,
General Manager.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1917. [177]

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED

ONE CERTIFICATE for 25 Shares Nos. 7440/7454 and **ONE CERTIFICATE** for 5 Shares Nos. 51403/51407 in this Company, standing in the name of Mr. TANG LAM KOOK, late of 15, Queen's Road, Hongkong, have been LOST, and it is the expiration of One Month from the date hereof the above documents be not forthcoming, other Certificates for the said Shares will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917. [175]

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

UNDERUPASCHLUTER IN LIQUIDATION.

FIRST DIVIDEND OF 25%.

CREDITORS of the above Firm are hereby notified that a First Dividend of 25 per cent. on the amount of their Claims will be paid on application to the Undersigned on and after THURSDAY, the 1st of February, 1917.

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
No. 15, Queen's Road Central.
Liquidators. [176]

SECOND & PER CENT. RUSSIAN INTERNAL SHORT TERMED LOAN OF 1916.

ALTHOUGH THE SUBSCRIPTION LISTS were CLOSED on the 26th December, the Russo-Asiatic Bank, Hongkong, is prepared to accept orders for the above Loan up to the 15th February, on the Subscription Terms, i.e., as previously advertised.

Hongkong, 19th January, 1917. [201]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 29th day of January, 1917, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Nathan Road, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the KING, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sub.	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements (Approximate).	Contents in Feet.	Area in Acres.	Approx. Price.
1	1000	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
2	1001	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
3	1002	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
4	1003	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
5	1004	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
6	1005	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
7	1006	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
8	1007	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
9	1008	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500
10	1009	Opposite to Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 72 feet	5200	0.15	2,500

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JUST RECEIVED.

A Large New Consignment of Latest Fashions of the ROYAL, PALACE, MANDLEN, BRILLIANT, FRENCH, GEORGETS AND WATER-SHADE CREPES FOR DRESSES, WRAPPERS, OPERA CLOAKS of all Styles. INDIAN, PERSIAN AND SILK CARPETS.

An inspection is earnestly solicited.

D. CHELLARAM,
38 & 40, QUEEN'S RD. CENTRAL
[192]

PUBLIC COMPANIES

THE WEST POINT BUILDING
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & COMPANY, LIMITED, on MONDAY, 29th January, 1917, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 18th, to MONDAY, 29th January, 1917 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to the
HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.
General Agents for the
West Point Building Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917. 173

THE HONGKONG CENTRAL ESTATE, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRD ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & COMPANY, LIMITED, on MONDAY, 29th January, 1917, at 11.45 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 18th, to MONDAY, 29th January, 1917 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to the
THE HONGKONG CENTRAL ESTATE, LIMITED.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917. 179

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & COMPANY, LTD., on MONDAY, 29th January, 1917, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 18th, to MONDAY, 29th January, 1917 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917. 189

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SIXTEENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., LTD., on MONDAY, 29th January, 1917, at 12.15 p.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 18th, to MONDAY, 29th January, 1917 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1917. 181

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE NINETEENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, Hotel Marlborough, on TUESDAY, the 13th February, 1917, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, declaring a Dividend and electing Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 31st January to the 13th February, 1917, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
W. E. CLARKE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 20th January, 1917. [202]

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LTD.

NOTICE.

FROM 1st February till further notice the following changes will be made in the Company's Time Table—

SUNDAYS.
From 5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. every quarter of an hour instead of every ten minutes.

From 6.30 p.m. to 7 p.m. every ten minutes instead of every quarter of an hour.

SUNDAYS AND WEEK-DAYS.
The 8.10 p.m. Car will be discontinued. [186]

WANTED.

SECRETARY (Lady or Gentleman) Wanted to generally assist the Deputy Superintendent of the Hongkong Police Reserve. (Hours, roughly, 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m., 2.30-5.30 p.m.)
Apply to—
Mr. F. C. JENKIN,
Police's Buildings,
Ice House Street. [208]

WANTED.

ENGINEER, Br., abutainer, for Harbour or Shop. Apply in own writing with copy res. stating age and salary required to—
W. B. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.,
Kowloon. [105]

INTIMATION

GILBEY'S
SPEY - ROYAL

SCOTCH WHISKY.

IS GUARANTEED TO BE MADE

FROM PURE MALTED BARLEY

IN A POT STILL.

10 YEARS OLD.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON &
CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 618.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOEUX ROAD, C.
LONDON OFFICE: 101, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 23RD JANUARY, 1917.

THE CHANGES BROUGHT BY
THE WAR.

UNDER exigencies more powerful than any he deemed possible, the Briton is accepting, with few complaints, a degree of regimentation which ten, five, or even three years ago he would have thought unbearable. It is true, of course, that the ideas underlying many of the changes that have taken place during the last two and a half years are not entirely new. They have been floating in the air for a long time, and it is possible that, by the pressure of the natural law of conformity, the changes would ultimately have been forced on us, war or no war. It is the rapidity with which the ideas have been brought into actual practice which is confusing.

Conscription, under the euphemistic title of national service, had long been advocated by various distinguished men, though not with much success. State ownership of various forms of wealth and industry had also been suggested, even by those who rejected the principles of Socialism, but here again public opinion was lethargic. An attempt to control the drink traffic by means of local option had actually been put forward as a practical proposal, but had received so decided a rejection by the public that no statesman had since attempted to make it a prominent feature in his political programme. Now, when conscription is a fact, and the State has already acquired one form of national wealth in the shape of the coal-fields, and the direct control, if not the acquisition, of the liquor traffic is within measurable distance, the Briton, rubbing his eyes, is inclined to wonder whether the opposition with which he formerly greeted these alleged reforms was based on sound reasons, so quickly have these reasons become dissipated. Yet more weighty reforms face him. Already

the fiscal system seems tottering. Free Trade, which has withstood such severe assaults during the last ten or fifteen years, is already doomed if the Paris Economic Conference is to be taken as something more than a demonstration of amity. The fact seems to be that the isolation of the United Kingdom from European economic and political conceptions is breaking down. Britain has long been isolated from other countries in so far as her fiscal policy is concerned. Even her own Dominions have not followed her example of free trade, and although, of course, the adoption of protection by other countries does not necessarily neutralise the benefits Britain derives from free trade, it presents an anomaly which is eagerly seized upon by those who consider their country's interests lie in the adoption of protection. In her political and social ideas Great Britain's isolation from Europe is most pronounced. In these, though geographically tied to the old world, she is allied to the new. As her language has drifted away from European standards until it now presents features which connect it with languages descended from totally different stocks, so her political and social ideas have taken a direction so different from those taken by the other leading nations of Europe that they have even been denounced as old-fashioned, although there are still some who think that it is Europe which has been travelling in the wrong direction and not Britain which has been standing still. As already stated, above, however, it is probable that even without the war the pressure exerted by Europe would ultimately have led to a change in the political and social structure of Great Britain. The war has simply expedited changes which were on their way—changes in the direction of making Britain less conspicuous and better able to protect herself against the aggressions of her European neighbours.

The man who goes unarmed amid an armed community, however strong of will and intent of purpose, will, sooner or later, through pressure here or menace there, find himself drawn into conformity with his neighbours. Such seems the fate of Britain, and indeed, the fate of the world, unless this war succeeds in driving back the wave of militarism which has arisen in Europe and is slowly rolling round the globe. In other directions, also, the influence of Europe—and more especially of Germany—is making itself felt in Britain. Lately there have been expostulations against "playing at being Germans," by imitating German ways and adopting German methods; yet the adoption of some German ways and German methods is almost inevitable, in view of the success they have attained. Mimicry is a very common fact in nature, where it is used as a means of self-preservation. British mimicry of Germany is also being used for a similar purpose. To some extent it is a retrogression, but it is only the hardened optimist who can imagine that war has any glorifying mission, even for the victors.

To-day being Chinese New Year and a public holiday, the next issue of the Daily Press will be on Thursday the 25th inst.

The St. Andrew's Society will hold a dinner at the Hongkong Hotel on the 25th inst.

On Sunday evening, Detective Sergt. Fowler discovered 42½ tael of prepared opium on board the s.s. *Hanoi*. No arrest has been made.

Five Chinese cases of enteric fever were reported in the Colony during the week ending January 20th, two of which proved fatal. There was also a non-fatal Chinese case of diphtheria.

The twelfth annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., will be held on February 3rd, at 11.30 a.m. at the offices of the general managers, Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tom Gunn, the Chinese aeronaut, who is residing at 174, Des Voeux Road Central, has reported to the police that whilst he was walking in Jervois Street on Sunday he was robbed of a gold watch and chain, valued at \$70.

Chinese confidence again abused. A report has been made to the police by a woman to the effect that when she was walking in Pottinger Street a man came up to her, and said he had \$145 to give her. They both went to a house in Cochrane Street, and here the man asked her for security. She gave him a gold bangle and a gold ring, valued at \$86. The man then left to get the "money" and has not been seen since.

THE CANTON WIDOW'S
CLAIM.HEARING CONCLUDED AT FULL
COURT.

The hearing in the Appeal Court, Hongkong, by a Canton widow for reversal of a judgment of the Chief Justice by which she was denied payment by the Bank of Canton of \$10,000, deposited by her deceased husband, was continued yesterday before the Full Court of three Judges.

Mr. E. H. Sharpe, K.C., for the appellants was heard on Saturday, and yesterday Mr. Eldon Potter opened the case for the respondents.

Mr. Potter argued that the Bank were fully entitled to pay out the money, seeing that it was on an order of the Court that it was so paid out. Now that it was discovered that the man receiving had no right to it, recovery should be had against him, and not against the Bank. Continuing, Mr. Potter said it might be argued that there may be two depositors of the same name, but it had never been suggested that there were two, and if there had been such a suggestion the only course open to their lordships would be to send the case back for proof that there was only one. Assuming that there was only one, the position was that the Court had been induced by a false statement to make an Order, the only effect of which could be to attach the one and only deposit for the sum of \$10,000 in that name in the Bank of Canton. This was not a case of two John Smiths and the bank paying money by mistake to one that should have been paid to the other. In this case there was only the one depositor of the name of Lau Cheuk Ting, and the Order could only apply to this one man. He then proceeded to deal with the effect of the garnishee order on the judgment, and said that the Court, believing that the judgment debtor and the depositor were the same, made an Order, and in effect, said—"Inasmuch as I, the Court, am satisfied that the judgment debtor and the depositor are one and the same, I order you to pay that money and all debts due." He thought it was clear that the Court must have found that the judgment debtor and the depositor were one and the same.

The President—No, no. The Court must have come to the conclusion that it had enough before it to justify it in making the Order.

Mr. Potter—But look at the effect of the Court's finding. The decree nisi is unchallenged, and the Order is made absolute, and by it the bank is ordered to pay into Court a sum of \$10,000 which had been hitherto standing in the name of Lau Cheuk Ting. That must be the effect of the Order, inasmuch as there was only one depositor of that name who had deposited that sum.

The President—You have now got to show us that the Court could make such an Order as you suggest it has made.

Mr. Potter—That presents no difficulty to my mind, if I am right in my contention as to the effect of the Order. If the effect of the Order is that the Court ordered the bank to pay \$10,000 standing in the name of the only Lau Cheuk Ting in the bank, then I hold that I am absolutely protected.

The President—If that is the effect of the Order, the Court could not make it.

Mr. Potter—I am going to show you that the Court could, unless it is stated that there were half-a-dozen depositors of that name in the bank. But it is a fact that there was only one Lau Cheuk Ting, the judgment debtor and depositor. They could not attribute the Order to anyone else, then being only the one, and the Court did the same thing in its judgment and in the garnishee proceedings.

Mr. Potter then proceeded to cite and quote legal authorities bearing out his contention.

Mr. Alabaster briefly replied, and the Court rose, judgment being reserved.

DR. SUN YATSEN DECORATED.

At his residence, 63, Rue Vallon, on the 16th inst., Dr. Yat-sen was decorated with the highest order of merit which had been awarded to him by the Chinese Government. President Li had ordered Major-Gen. Kao to proceed from Peking to Shanghai for the purpose of bestowing the order on the former leader, and in accordance with Dr. Sun's expressed wish the ceremony was entirely without pomp. Only a few friends, mostly military people, were present. The order, an enamelled cross encrusted with pearls, and carrying the five colours of the republic, was handed to Sun over a table on which was draped a Chinese flag, before which he bowed thrice.

THE WAR.

THE LONDON EXPLOSION.

HEARTRENDING SCENES.

CONDITIONS AT THE FRONT.

GREAT SCARCITY IN GERMANY.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE LONDON EXPLOSION.

HEARD NINETY SIX MILES AWAY.

LONDON, January 22nd.

The explosion at the munitions factory was heard at King's Lynn, ninety six miles distant.

Any eye-witness stated that it occurred half an hour after the fire started, and was followed by a flame a thousand times more intense than anything he had ever seen. Almost immediately the air was filled with debris, billions of sparks, and sickly smelling gas like a yellow fog. The crash of collapsing buildings and falling materials continued for at least eight minutes.

The death roll at the factory where the explosion occurred is probably trifling, as it is understood that only a small staff was employed, but the destruction of the crowded small houses in the vicinity was terrific.

It is stated that three streets of cottages were practically wiped out.

The task of extricating the injured from the debris was difficult. The police, special constables and Volunteers guarded all the approaches.

The cause of the explosion will probably remain a mystery, but it is noteworthy that many prosecutions have recently taken place of munition makers who were found in possession of matches.

ITALIAN LOAN.

ROME, January 22nd.

The issue has been authorised of a five per cent. loan, at ninety. Payments will be accepted in foreign gold and Government securities.

EARLIER CABLES.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

MELBOURNE, January 20th.

Mr. Hughes has accepted the proposal for the formation of a National Government.

WOLFRAM SHORTAGE IN GERMANY.

PARIS, January 20th.

The Germans are offering a big prize for a substitute for wolfram, of which there is a shortage.

WOLFRAM IN CORNWALL.

LONDON, January 19th.

New lodes of wolfram are stated to have been discovered in Cornwall, sufficient to provide a large proportion of the British requirements.

ORIENTAL STUDIES.

LONDON, January 20th.

The date of the formal opening by the King of the School of Oriental Studies has not been finally settled.

SUBMARINES AS FOOD CARRIERS.

LONDON, January 19th.

The Paymaster General, Sir J. Compton Rickett, speaking at Doncaster, said it had been unofficially suggested that submarine liners might be employed as food carriers.

THE PEACE PROPOSALS.

AMSTERDAM, January 18th.

Mr. Baillou's Note has infuriated the Germans. The *Koelnische Zeitung* declares it is the duty of all servants of the State to show goodwill towards the sword and the torpedo.

THE LONDON DISASTER.

HEARTRENDING SCENES.

LONDON, January 21st.

Further details are to hand of the terrible explosion in the munitions factory in the East End of London.

The firemen were able to circumscribe the fire, but heartrending scenes attended the removal of the women and girls from the blazing premises. Many were unconscious, having been stunned by the shock, and some were terribly burned and charred. A crowd of tugs were soon busy taking the victims across the water to every hospital within reach. One child, a few months' old, was extracted from a heap of ruins which was once its parents' house, being the only survivor of a family of six. The fires were still burning relentlessly at midnight, and roof after roof collapsed with terrific crashes. The flames also rose higher and higher like expanding fountains, and the masts of the shipping stood out clearly silhouetted against the sky. The scene was one of awful grandeur. As evidence of the force of the explosions, it is stated that a huge piece of boiler, weighing from three to four tons, was found in a field 400 yards from the scene of the disaster. Another piece, a ton in weight, crashed into a butcher's shop, instantly killing the occupants.

The district in the immediate neighbourhood of the explosion looks as if it has been visited by a terrible earthquake. Houses have been demolished wholesale, roofs have been ripped off, and many buildings are left with only one wall standing. Apparently the places on either side of the river suffered most severely, the concussion, seemingly, travelling further over water than over land. In some cases dwellings several miles down the river suffered more than buildings much closer to the scene.

In a few isolated cases windows in buildings in the heart of London were smashed. Some plate-glass windows in Kingsway were blown out, and windows were also broken in St. James's Park. There was also much damage to glass in Brixton, Brockley and Greenwich. The shock was most severe at Lewisham and Catford.

ORGANISING THE NATION.

GOVERNMENT IN "DEAD EARNEST."

LONDON, January 21st.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain, (Director General of National Service), addressing a meeting of the Alliance of Employers at Birmingham, said:—"It will perhaps depend on our efforts during the next few weeks whether there is to be a fourth winter campaign. The colossal task of organising the nation must be faced. The nation must understand that the Government is in dead earnest on this point and will not hesitate to take what steps it thinks necessary for victory if voluntary service is insufficient."

RUSSIA'S NEW PREMIER.

PETERSBURG, January 21st.

The Tsar, in a Rescript, urges Prince Golitsin to devote his attention to the provisioning of the armies and civilians and the improvement of rail and water transport. He hopes that the Council of Empire and the Duma will support the port of the Zomstvos invaluable. He declares it is the duty of all servants of the State to show goodwill towards the Legislature.

FOOD SHORTAGE IN GERMANY.

SITUATION VERY GRAVE.

LONDON, January 20th.

An interview with Lord Robert Cecil, published in France, describing the work of the blockade, concludes by saying that the scarcity in Germany is very grave, and there is every reason to believe that the condition of her Allies is worse.

AMSTERDAM, January 20th.

The meeting of Austro-Hungarian statesmen in Berlin, to discuss the feeding question, coincides with the most serious food crisis yet experienced. Many bakeries have closed down owing to the lack of supplies, and many house holders have been without bread for a fortnight. The failure of the potato harvest is accountable for the scarcity, as potato flour is necessary in breadmaking. Milk is also very scarce and very dear. A new regulation orders that sausages shall contain at least twelve per cent. of bran.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH RAID TRENCHES.

MANY ENEMY CASUALTIES.

LONDON, January 22nd.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—"We successfully raided trenches in the forenoon south-east of Loos, and destroyed dug-outs full of Germans, inflicting many casualties. We entered the German lines last night north of Neuve Chapelle. The enemy's artillery was active at Rancourt, Beaucourt, Somme, and Ypres. We effectively bombarded the St. Pierre Vaast, Gomme Court, Arras and Armentieres regions."

HEAVY ARTILLERYING.

PARIS, January 22nd.

A communiqué says:—"North of the Somme, in the region of Mon St. Quentin, the artillery caught marching enemy troops. On the right of the Meuse, in the sectors of Vacher-au-Ville, Chambrettes and Caurieres Wood, there has been great reciprocal artillerying. We carried out a successful coup de main towards Senones."

EARLIER CABLES.

FRENCH TAKE PRISONERS.

PARIS, January 21st.

A communiqué says:—"A German attack in the direction of Canny-sur-Meuse, in the region of Lassigny, was easily repulsed. We took some prisoners."

AT THE FRONT.

IMPROVED CONDITIONS.

LONDON, January 19th.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, describing the conditions, says:—"While a mantle covers the semi-frozen ground, and the trenches are already slushy, and a deplorable mess is inevitable when it really thaws, nevertheless, the conditions in the permanent trenches are better than last winter. If we are uncomfortable, the Germans are far worse. Everything is being done to mitigate our hardships. Skin coats, wading boots, mufflers and mittens and good hot meals are served in the front lines. Consequently, sickness and "trench-feet" are reduced to a minimum."

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

CONDITIONS ON RUSSIAN FRONT.

LONDON, January 19th.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, who has visited the Russian sector, says the Russians, who are mostly veterans from the Eastern front, are finding the weather quite "mild." The Germans greatly resent the presence of the Russians, and send over gas at every opportunity, but the Russian precautions are effective.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

TRIPOLI REBELLION.

HEAVY REBEL LOSSES.

ROME, January 22nd.

A communiqué says:—"We caught up the fleeing Tripolitan rebels mentioned on the 18th inst. and redefeated them after a fierce three hours' battle in a sandstorm. It is reckoned that the rebel losses in two days was 820 killed and 1,300 wounded."

The Balkans.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

MOBILISING CRETANS.

CANEA, January 22nd.

The National Government has issued mobilisation orders for untrained Cretans born between 1884 and 1885. General mobilisation of trained men is expected immediately.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMAN WIRELESS.

LONDON, January 21st.

A German wireless official message says:—"We captured on Friday, in addition to Nanesti, the whole of the bridgehead."

We stormed several lines, capturing the town after a violent house-to-house struggle. The Russians streaming back across the Sereth bridge suffered heavily from our fire. We took 550 prisoners.

IN MESOPOTAMIA.

CLEARING OUT THE ENEMY.

LONDON, January 21st.

An official Mesopotamian message states:—"We have driven out the enemy from the area north-east of Kut-el-Amara, and now hold a trench system on a front of 2,500 yards, and to a depth of 1,100 yards. We have cleared the enemy from the right bank of the Tigris, from Kut-el-Amara down stream. We have further progressed against the trenches on the right bank, south-west of Kut-el-Amara."

RUSSIAN SUCCESSES.

LONDON, January 21st.

Reuter's correspondent at Jassy, wiring on January 19th says the latest communiqué show the enemy offensive in south-west Moldavia is definitely checked. The Russians have gained marked successes at different points.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

TWO COMMERCE RAIDERS?

Buenos Aires, January 20th.

The captain of the *Radsnorshire*, in an interview, said that he was chased by two commerce-raiders after leaving Pernambuco on January 1th. He was quickly overhauled and twenty-six Germans boarded his vessel and took charge. He saw three vessels sunk, the Germans taking cinematograph pictures of the sinkings.

NEW YORK, January 20th.

The steamship *Yarrowdale*, with the raider's victims has arrived at St. Vincent.

SPANISH SUBMARINE'S WHEREABOUTS.

MADRID, January 21st.

The Minister of Marine denies that the Spanish submarine, *Isaac Pirelli*, is in Danish waters. He states that it is still in an American shipyard, from where it will proceed direct to Spain.

SINKINGS.

LONDON, January 20th.

The following steamers have been sunk:—*Yalla* (Spanish), *Dagmar* (Danish), and *Bergendius* (Norwegian).

DUTCH MAILBOAT CAPTURED.

AMSTERDAM, January 20th.

The *Handelsblad* says the mail steamer *Prins Hendrik* has been taken to Zeebrugge.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

While the *Daily Press* was appealing to its readers to subscribe the sum necessary to erect and equip a Y.M.C.A. Hut for the use of our soldiers in France, the War Charities Committee very kindly offered to father the effort. As an inducement to accept this proposal, it was pointed out that, though the sum of \$4,000 might possibly be raised, \$8,000 would never be reached, and by bringing the scheme under the aegis of the War Charities Fund the balance would be assured—and several other Huts would probably be voted. With some reluctance, the offer was declined on the ground that this newspaper would be able to obtain many small subscriptions which would be withheld if it were felt that the War Charities Fund was at the back of the movement.

The result is known. The necessary money was forthcoming in four days, and, in the end, it was possible to hand over a balance \$1,000 to the Hut Fund which the War Charities Committee had opened in the meantime. With this surplus the Committee promptly voted a second Hut. This was seven months ago. Since then I have not noticed in the published list of subscriptions any sums earmarked for the "Hut Fund," nor have I noticed that any grant has been made for a third Hut. Yet the Winter is just the time when the comfort which these Huts furnish is most needed by our soldiers returning from the trenches, plattered with mud, numb with cold, and dazed with fatigue. One is tempted to doubt whether any Huts would have been provided at all if the *Daily Press* had not had the audacity to take the initiative. At the time it was gently reproved for encroaching upon the domain of the War Charities Committee. What do the critics say now? A splendid chance of doing something for the poor little half-starved Belgian children was missed at Christmas. Subscriptions may be flowing in freely, but it is doubtful whether the best possible results are being obtained by the unobtrusive methods of the War Charities Committee. I have heard it remarked by some very conservative members of the community that there should be a little more vigorous beating of the drum, and I am inclined to agree with the view.

"Much has been written and said of late concerning education in Hongkong," writes a correspondent, "but nobody has explained how it is that the principal prizes are always carried off by Chinese students, while English boys come in at the finish for good conduct, scripture, cricket, tennis and football. Why is it that boys who have first to learn the English language best boys who are not handicapped in this way? Of course, the Chinese are in the majority, but the cleverest Chinese boy is infinitely the superior of the cleverest English boy in the same school, to judge by prize-winning results. This may be attributable to the climate, and the fact that English boys go home for extended periods and forget much which they have learned." Chinese boys are admittedly studious, but the real explanation of the circumstance to which my correspondent draws attention is probably supplied by himself when he admits that the Chinese boys are in the majority. Suppose, for example, there is, on an average, one exceptionally bright boy in every fifty, there will be twelve in six hundred, and one of these twelve will be even brighter than the others.

"In view of the fact that only Scotsmen will be eligible to attend, from a business point of view, the forthcoming Barmy dinner," writes a facetious correspondent, "cannot it be arranged that we poor Sassanachs should be admitted to a gallery view of the proceedings on payment of \$10 each, the proceeds to be given to War Charities? I am told that it would be quite worth the money to learn how to deal with a \$8 dinner to the smallest advantage of the caterer. What exactly is meant by this, I do not know, but, being ever ready to learn, I am willing to pay \$10 for a glimpse of the proceedings, in order to see how we Southerners differ from our Scotch friends when it comes to getting our money's worth." My correspondent would need a very keen eye to detect the difference.

A little while ago Reuter announced that, owing to pressure on the telegraphic service, instructions had been given for Press messages to be curtailed as far as possible. That explains, no doubt, why an eager world had to rest content with the bald announcement that Mrs. Austen Chamberlain had given birth to a son. For the name, weight, and other particulars of the new arrival we shall probably have to possess our souls in patience until the christening ceremony. Who will dare say now that we do not feel the pinch of the war in this little out-post of Empire?

Despite the small-pox epidemic, many Europeans have found it impossible to forgo the exhibition of bargaining with John Chinaman at the New Year fair in the vicinity of Paddy's market. As usual, there is a varied assortment of Chinese curios which have been made in Birmingham, or some other big European manufacturing centre, and, true to type, the *griffin* has gone away hugging a doubtful bargain and the belief that the innocent looking stallholder has been no match for him. Enlightenment may be trusted to come later.

A few years ago a certain *griffin* cast a longing eye upon a corpulent and jovial looking brass jossman, evidently of great antiquity. The price, however, was beyond him. Warned how to act, he waited anxiously until the last day of the fair, and then secured the relic of a bygone age for a quarter of the sum originally asked for it. "Good business," chuckled the *griffin*, as he carried the joss home to give it a place of honour amongst his household Gods. "I have beaten John at his own game." One day, however, the *griffin's* "boy," with an unwonted access of energy, took it into his head to apply polish to the joss. . . . When the proud owner returned he was horrified to find that his treasure was less brazen than the dealer—in fact, it was "made in Germany" of cast iron.

RODERICK RANDOM.

THE SWEETS OF VICTORY.

"O Grocer! let my anguished prayer Fall not on deaf, unheeding ears. Behold," I cried, "my suppliant air. These extra large and bitter tears. Lo! at thy counter here I kneel, A pound of sugar, only one, But in a voice as hard as steel He answered me, "It can't be done."

"Here is each fragrant spice of Ind, Fair, golden oranges of Spain, And breakfast dainties neatly timed: Purchase of these and try again." "I care not for your spice, indeed, Nor oranges nor tinned confections; Sell me the sugar that I need." On, failing that, some simple sweets."

"Sweets, sir!" he cried. "It shall be done. Here you may have your heart's desire; Up to, suppose we say, a ton. I can provide what you require." I bought, although the price was high, But life is not the same to me With pear-drops in my apple pie And acid tablets in my tea."

TOUCHSTONE.

WAR NEWS.

WARNING FROM ITALY.

The *Tribuna* publishes an important article, signed by the editor, urging all the Allies to profit by the recent mistakes made in respect of Roumania to prevent a repetition of these errors in the near future. The article says: The Austro-Germans have announced their intention to attack Italy next spring with all their forces, commanded by Hindenburg. "Naturally Italy, first of all, must employ all her resources and make any sacrifices to resist the enemy; but all the Allies must prepare efficacious means to check such a plan, as even a momentary or partial success of the enemy may either prolong the war or lead to an unstable and dangerous peace, while its failure may be the beginning of the definite victory of the Allies."

A GRIM GAMBLE.

William J. Robinson, who has spent a year in the trenches in France, tells the following about the life of the British "Tommy" in the *World's Work*: "When the regiment goes into action a crowd of fellows get together and put all the money they have in a pool. They give it to some one who stays behind, and he has instructions to hand all the money to the last one left alive. Sometimes they arrange it so that they draw the money every time they come out of action, and in this way they get the use of it from time to time. If the fellows put in ten francs each, and when they come out of action the next time there are only five of the ten fellows left, each of the remaining five has doubled his money. It is the only gamble I ever saw in which a fellow cannot lose, for if he is knocked over he certainly has no interest in money matters."

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Applicants will be required to produce Passport or identification papers.

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Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

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Sanaphos is the property of an All-British Company, the Chairman of which is Sir William Taylor, M.D., formerly Principal Medical Officer of H.M. Forces in India, and more recently Surgeon-General of the Forces.

Sanaphos is not a drug-medicine, remember—not a false stimulant. No stimulant gives such real strength as Sanaphos. It is just food—but its strength gets into your system almost instantly.

It supplies the substance that makes muscle and strength. And it gives quickly the elements needed by tired nerves and brain—elements which are not supplied sufficiently by ordinary food.

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Unlike preparations of "cascin" it does not cause digestive ailments. Hundreds of Physicians, Hospitals and Nurses testify to the great value of Sanaphos.

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LITTLE WAR PICTURES.

A NOBLE ARMY OF OPTIMISTS IN FRANCE.

(By JAMES DOUGLAS.)

Before I left London I met the most powerful Optimist in Blighty. He curdled my blood with visions of the past, present, and future. I forgot how many millions of men were to die and how many thousands of the war would end in a stalemate. Imagine my astonishment when I found the whole British Army in France bubbling over with optimism. Officers and privates were alike in their cheery confidence. They could not have been in higher spirits if the whole German army had been thrown across the Rhine.

Without exception they spoke of the Germans as Boches, not as Germans. I do not think I heard the word German while I was in France. "We've got the Boches whacked," said one. "We've got the Boches stiff," said a third. There never was an Army more thoroughly imbued with the spirit of victory. They laughed when I doled out the arguments of the Pessimists at home. I am not a military expert, and I listened to the soldiers with respectful deference.

Perhaps the testimony of a simple private soldier may be cited as a typical example of what the Army thinks and says. He was a Scottish soldier, very war-worn, very fit, and very jolly. He bobbed out of a dug-out at a place which there is no need to mention. "We've got them on the run," he said. "They're fighting in shell-holes. We're giving them no time to dig themselves in. When are you coming back? Next week! No! Well, come back soon and we'll have a bit of Germany for you!"

In a certain dug-out I met a subaltern who had been wounded that very morning in the trenches. Both his hands were bound, and his bright scarlet blotches stained the clean white bandages. A sniper had got him with one bullet in both hands. "Badly hit?" said I. "No," said he. "Worse luck. It's not a blighty. It's not a cushy one." He did not conceal his disgust. He frankly avowed that he would like to get a cushy one that would take him home for a week or two. But he was in the least despondent. Everything was top-hole. The Boches were coopered.

THE SERGEANT. There is a sergeant who has for months sought carefully and with tears for a cushy one. He has gone through every show without a scratch. Fifteen minutes before the new show started his Company Commander was going round the men cheering them with a few well chosen words.

"Well, Jones, how are you feeling?" "A bit shaky, sir; but I'll be all right when we go over the top."

"That's all right, Jones. Don't say anything about it."

"We're going to get it in the neck, sir. The Boches are expecting us. Look at their machine-gun ranging on the parapet."

"That's nothing, Jones. If you get over the top quickly you'll get me in the leg, not in the head."

Jones grinned.

"Well, sergeant, how are you feeling?" "I'm not worrying, sir. They can't hit me. I can't get a cushy one, no matter how hard they try to hit me. I know they can't hit me."

After the show the officer was counting the casualties, which were heavy. There was a broad grin on the Sergeant Bairnsfather's face.

"What did I tell you, sir? They couldn't hit me. It's no good, sir. I tell you what, sir, I wish I was a blooming acrobat. I would stand on my head on the parapet and wave my feet in the air till I stopped one. But it would be no good, sir. They can't hit me!"

That is the British soldier. He is an amazing bundle of contradictions. Apparently his overmastering desire is to get a wound severe enough to send him home for a holiday, but he is nevertheless full of the fighting quality and ready to go anywhere and do anything. If the whole British Army were asked to die to a man it would die with a smile on its face. Casualties produce no effect upon its astounding courage and confidence.

In romantic fiction the soldier is usually a being who is always trying to win the Victoria Cross or the Military Cross or the D.S.O. or the D.C.M. This is a ridiculously false picture. There is no pot-hunting in France. There is an anecdote which illustrates the attitude of the officer towards pots and pot-hunters. A certain battalion was informed that a certain number of decorations had been allotted to its officers by an Allied Power. The officers tossed for them! I cannot vouch for the veracity of this story, but it is a clue to the spirit of the Army.

In a certain buffet at a Base port my attention was called to a young naval officer who had just come in. I was told that a few days before he had performed an amazing feat of reckless valour. "I suppose he'll get the Victoria Cross," said I. "No, in the least likely," said my friend. "Lots of our fellows do mad things of that sort and nothing is ever heard of them. You can't give crosses to every brave man. They're all heroes."

CHERRING THE GUNS. One night our car passed a battalion of fresh troops. They had come straight from England, and were marching in the moonlight. They looked amazingly fit and uproariously happy. They were whistling and singing. Our hearts warmed to those splendid lads as our car glided past the long elastic column swinging rhythmically along the moonlit road. The moonbeams lighted faces after faces turned to glance at us as we passed; smiling, eager-eyed, vivid with the sense of strange things; many youth glowing in their clear brown skin; exuberantly, electrically British. It was

an unforgettable sight, that made the war human for a moment. There was an army in the round; not a cold machine, but breathing flesh and blood, with homes written on every face, and the life behind them flowing into the life or death before them.

It is a view in the time of war, but I could not help sighing for the endless stream of boys marching out of the life we live into that red unknown. It is only one of many streams flowing over Europe into the sea of war. And the moon looks on as coldly as a Kaiser.

These were raw troops. What of the veterans? Well, let me show you the spirit of a battalion that has been toughened in the furnace of battle. I saw them one afternoon marching up to the firing line. The colonel was riding at their head. They were spick and span, and bore themselves proudly. Over their heads and ours a battery of heavy guns was firing great shells. Spontaneously as the guns spoke the battalion waved their steel helmets in the air and burst into cheers. They were cheering the big guns. One need not point the moral or etch in the emotion. These are things for which there are no words. The roar of the guns, the flashes of the shells, the rushing noise of the shells—a noise that nobody can describe—the cheering soldiers—well, I have forgotten many scenes I saw in France, but I can never get that scene out of my memory. And I don't know that I want to.

TIED MEN. Another picture that swims back again every day is darker in tone. War is not all cheers and charges. Nine-tenths of war is dirt and drudgery, weariness of body and mind. I have shown you how a battalion marches up to the trenches. Let me now show you how a battalion marches back. The road along which we were motoring was congested with troops and guns and transport. The traffic was as thick as at the Mansion House, Charing Cross, or Piccadilly Circus. It was also as well conducted. Through the mass of men and material came a double line of thirty soldiers. The chalky grime of the trenches whitened their boots, their puttees, and their tunics. I have never seen human beings so weary. I do not think I have ever seen a horse so weary, for a horse falls down long before he reaches that stage of fatigue. I do not think I have ever seen a hunted stag on Exmoor so weary, for even a Royal stag's heart breaks long before the heart of a British soldier. But the look in the eyes of these foundering men was like the look I have seen in the eyes of a stag at the end of a gallant race for life. I can never forget it, and I don't know that I want to.

They were too tired to walk consciously. They walked like automata. They were too tired to see, for their eyes were dim, with sleep deferred, worn muscles, and frayed nerves. Some of them lurched and reeled like drunken men, but they were drunk with weariness, not with wine. As I watched one soldier who was dizzy with exhaustion, somebody remarked, "That chap's all in." He was all in, but some hidden fire of will kept him on his legs, although now and then his head fell back and a comrade behind restored his balance with a gentle push. Nothing that I saw brought home to me so sharply the strain of modern war upon the finest physique. I saw Queen Alexandra weeping when Dorando staggered into the Stadium at the White City. France is filled with Dorandos in khaki and horizon blue.

I beg you to realise that this little picture is one of the commonest sights at the front, and that it is a gay sight compared to the other sights that are seen every day in the trenches, in the field dressing stations, first aid posts, and field ambulances. After the war these other pictures may or may not be shown in film or phrase. Now they must be left to the imagination of the non-combatant lest war in its quiddity should make war too hideous to be endured by Kings and Cabinets, Parliaments and newspapers, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, boys and girls.

"A night's sleep and a bath will set them on their feet," said an officer, who was looking on with an experienced eye. Such is the soul in the modern town-bred clerk, artisan, labourer, artist, author, doctor, solicitor, or barrister; such is the soul in the modern minor, porter, policeman, peasant, golfer, cricketer, footballer, polo player, or bedonist, that agony is borne far surpassing anything borne by the puling heroes of Homer or the Old Guard of Napoleon.

A MARCHING BRIGADE. One morning our car passed a brigade on the march. As it was a morning in early September, perhaps I may say that it was the Rifle Brigade. The sun was hot; the road was dusty. Our car slowed down as we passed the long column, so that no extra dust should clog the parched throats of those splendid young men. They were not singing or whistling. That is dry work. The young men were capless and tunicleless. They had flung their caps and tunics on the light vehicles which they were dragging by ropes strained over their shoulders. Their blue Army shirts were open to the waist, and the sweat gleamed on their naked chests. They were marching close to the right-hand side of the road in alignment, leaving a broad space for the heavy lorries that never seem to leave the French Route Nationale.

In the evening, after a long day's motoring, we met the same brigade on the same road. It seemed as if they had stood still. But they were coming down a steep hill, and the men who had been pushing the carts in the morning were holding them back by ropes thrown over their shoulders. They had been marching, pushing, and braking all day, and they were still going strong. And that is a soldier's picnic in war time. If that were war at its worst it would be heaven.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

MACEDONIA TASKS. FORCES SMALLER THAN THE ENEMY'S.

(FROM A WARD PRICE.)

I doubt if many people at home remember that in the Balkans we are holding a front 250 miles long (half as long as the French front in the west), and that this line is probably more difficult, mile for mile, than that of any other of the principal theatres of war. This front is served solely by two main roads and two single-track lines of railway. All the other routes of communication, including hundreds of miles of road, of light railway, of broad-gauge sidings, bridges, and causeways have had to be built by the Allied Army, and built of imported materials that were often desperately slow in coming.

In addition to these works—which have literally changed the face of Southern Macedonia—the Allies first built round Salonica an entrenched camp which is one of the strongest in the world, and then, moving onwards, have occupied and fortified themselves along the whole of their present front. Here they have constantly held up larger forces of the enemy, and they first arrested and then gradually drove back a determined offensive against their flank until now, since the taking of Monastir, it is we who are invading the territory that has been in occupation of the enemy for over a year.

The astonishing thing to the observer on the spot is that so much has been done with the very moderate strength that the Allies have allowed for this campaign. There were times last summer, while Athens was taking its heavy toll of the Balkan force, when more than a phantom army. The way in which the troops were taken from one sector of the front and sent under the greatest difficulties of transport to reinforce another that seemed more threatened was an admirable example of making the most of inadequate resources.

600,000 FOR 150,000. Our strength has been too great to be needed for the mere defence of Salonica and too little to undertake a serious offensive beyond it. I say that, of course, with no inspiration and without authority other than my own as an independent observer and recorder of the campaign, but no one can deny a fact so evident. Whatever may have been the needs on the other fronts that prevented reinforcements from being sent here, whatever may have been the political and diplomatic reasons that placed restrictions upon those responsible for the conduct of the Balkan campaign, the fundamental truth remains that the forces here have up to this date been compelled to adopt a semi-defensive rôle, for they have never had nearly the number of men necessary to undertake an operation on a big scale in the difficult country and against the numerous and tenacious troops in front of them.

The objects with which we came to the Balkans over a year ago remain yet to be achieved. Serbia has to be reconquered. Connection has to be cut between the Germanic Empires and the rich reservoir of man and foodstuffs in Turkey on which they have only begun to draw.

For the Allied force in the Balkans to have undertaken serious operations with its objectives so much diminished would certainly have exposed it to failure.

So far the Allied offensive in the Balkans has been carried out—though it may sound unlikely, I know this as a fact—by forces much inferior to those of the enemy. In theory superior numbers are needed for attack, but all the advance in Western Macedonia has been made with a strength distinctly less than that of the Bulgarians.

Do not suppose that all our soldiers go up to the front on their feet. I saw some of the 1914 London motor buses laden with 1916 soldiers. The bright paint had long ago been weathered, and Oxford-circus was almost illegible. The London bus outlives the London soldier out there. A new division does not foot-slog its way to the firing line. It goes up swiftly in motor-lorries. Some of it comes back in motor-ambulances with its muddy boots or its bandaged feet turned up at the end of the stretcher. Some of it does not come back at all, but sleeps awfully in those serene little war-graves that I hope to describe in a later article.

The French motor-transport vehicles are not so large or so lordly as ours, but they can move. One day I met scores of them rushing to the front packed with laughing, cheering, singing British soldiers. The cannons were driven by French soldiers, and beside each of them sat a British sergeant or corporal, smoking each other's cigarettes, and looking like ancient comrades-in-arms. The soldiers inside were half-hidden by the hoods, but some of them thrust their heads through the wooden frameworks, looking like chickens in a crate. For them the great adventure was beginning, and they were like happy children going to a banquet, blowing kisses to the French girls working in the fields, to whom khaki is no longer a new colour, and who have seen far more of this deep river of war than those chaffing, jesting boys.

Another little picture hangs on the wall of my memory. It was Sunday morning. On a hill near the road a great hollow square of soldiers stood motionless, with the white surplined Padre in the centre. As we passed the band commenced to play and the square commenced to melt. The service was over and dinner was smoking in the field kitchens. One was touched by that glimpsed blend of war and Christianity, and one wondered illicitly at the explosive mixture. But in war-time it is well not to wonder too much. One might wonder oneself crazy.

THE AGONY OF BELGIUM.

II.—"LEGAL" ROBBERY.
BLACKMAIL OF MUNICIPAL
AUTHORITIES.

Rigorous measures are in force to prevent personal communications from the invaded parts of Belgium from reaching England. In the following article a neutral commercial agent, who has recently returned from Brussels, reveals the present condition of the country.

The rich as well as the poor are being persecuted, robbed, and systematically tortured by the "authority" in occupation of Belgium territory. The announcement that the Brussels and Antwerp have been arrested and fined for not obeying an order of the Governor-General indicates to what extremes the oppressors will go in their campaign of terrorism. This arbitrary proceeding has a double object; ostensibly the intention is to obtain a list of poor Belgians of military age with a view to deportation, but the extortion of money from richer citizens of any age is aimed at. The Germans are determined to extract the life-blood of the country to the very last drop.

Since the Burgomaster of Brussels, M. Adolphe Max, was carried off to prison at Celle-Schloss, in Hanover, the duties of first magistrate have been discharged by M. Maurice Lemonnier, the senior Sheriff, whose wife at short time ago received notification that she had been fined \$20. No particulars of the offence charged against her were given. In these circumstances she refused to pay, whereupon furniture and ornaments to the value of \$48 were taken from house and publicly sold. It was not until after this sale that Mme. Lemonnier was informed that she had been condemned for being in possession of a forbidden publication. Some spy—and the city is swarming with them—had supplied the evidence, and she was not allowed any opportunity of refuting the accusation.

The punishment of burgomasters and local officials for failing to furnish lists of unemployed workmen is another sample of "German" justice. Men of military age are required rather than the mere unemployed, who are so numerous at the present time that it is difficult to keep count of them. The Belgians have always been such industrious and provident people that there was little poverty before the war; there are no "poor rates" in the country, and workhouses on the English system do not exist. In the large towns are "maisons de Travailleurs," where old men and women are supported, provided they perform work suitable to their age and strength; and in winter time householders send to these establishments for chopped wood. The infirm and afflicted can also obtain shelter and maintenance at various "hospices," which are generally supported by Catholic societies and are not under the control of the burgomasters. It was not until stages of extreme distress were reached that a Belgian would allow his name to be put upon the list of the "assistance publique."

THE BELGIANS' "PAPIERS."

The information at the disposal of the burgomasters which the Germans are so anxious to obtain is of a more confidential and valuable character than a mere list of idle men. This will be understood if I briefly explain one section of local government in Belgium.

Each incorporated district has its *maison communale*, attached to which is a *bureau de la population*, where a double record of the inhabitants is kept, one arranged street by street, and the other with names in alphabetical order. New-comers have to register their names and addresses within eight days of arrival, and all removals must be notified. The request that the necessary "papiers" should be sent to the bureau of the district in which the person removing intended to reside. A Belgian's "personal papers" (which is the nearest translation of "papiers") are of great importance; they are the chronicles of his life, giving the date of his birth and particulars of his parentage; all the addresses at which he has lived; if married, his marriage certificate; his trade or profession; and if he has been convicted of any offence, the details in a small book. A Belgian, especially of the working class, is careful to carry always upon his person, because he may be called upon by the police to produce it at any moment; without it he cannot vote at Parliamentary or municipal elections; it is accepted as a proof of identification, enables him to obtain registered letters at the post office, and a man with his "papers in order" is considered to be respectable and has no difficulty in obtaining credit.

When a murderer is condemned to death by Belgian law his papers are taken from him, and he is thus deprived of all civil rights. There is no capital punishment in Belgium, but the condemned man is put into prison and considered legally dead. His wife may marry again, and his property is divided among his heirs.

While I am describing the Belgian system of National Registration, which is much more complete than that lately introduced in England, I may as well explain how the cost of keeping such complete records is defrayed. Anyone wanting the address of a person who has "gone away" can go to the Bureau de la Population and obtain the desired information on payment of a franc. These francs total up to a sum sufficient to pay the salaries of clerks employed upon this special work. The Germans have insisted upon the municipal authorities maintaining their usual administration, because it facilitates a scheme of daylight robbery. Not only can they find burgomasters and their subordinates for failure to perform impossible tasks, but they can ascertain the financial status of individuals upon whom levies can be made on the slightest provocation or pretence.

In the early days of the war millions of francs were demanded from each town that was entered, and a campaign of

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

A GALLANT BELGIAN LADY.

A STORY OF MME. CARTON DE
WIART.

In the address on "The Crucifixion of Belgium," which he gave recently in New York, Major Livingston Seaman, U.S.V., tells the stirring story of Madame De Wiart.

"One Sunday evening, we dined with Madame Henri Carton De Wiart, wife of the Belgian Minister of Justice, in an ancient castle near Havre, given to her by the French. It was in strange contrast to the prison for criminals in Berlin, where for three months she was incarcerated in a cell but little larger than her dining table, for mailing a copy of the pastoral letter of Cardinal Mercier, who is now himself a victim of German tyranny. When asked by the tribunal which convicted her, whether she had sent the letter, she answered, 'Yes, and I am ready to pay the penalty.' Our Embassy, and that of Spain intervened on her behalf, but when our Ambassador called to see her, the interview was allowed only in the presence of a German official. When asked regarding her food, she said, 'I had not known these dishes before, but I know them now.' The following day the German officer visited her again, and said, 'Madam, you will be allowed the privilege of purchasing your own food.' She answered, 'For a privilege one must say thank you. I cannot say thank you to a German. You say I may pay for my food. That money would go to a German. I would rather starve than have my money go to a German.' She endured her imprisonment to the end, thus typifying again the spirit of Belgium, which neither shall nor can conquer."

ANOTHER CAVELL ATROCITY.
FRENCH NURSE MURDERED.

Confirmation has just been received in Paris of the murder of a Frenchwoman, Mme. Moreesse, by the Germans in Brussels. The crime was perpetrated in similar circumstances to that of Edith Cavell, and at about the same epoch, her execution having taken place on February 29th last.

This victim of German barbarity was the wife of a Brussels journalist, and, according to a letter received from Holland, her relatives, who live near Paris, her ardent patriotism—she was a nurse, like Edith Cavell, in a military hospital—had earned for her the cruel spite of the invaders.

Charges were trumped up against her to give von Bissing the long-sought pretext to bring her to judgment and execution. Mme. Moreesse met her end heroically. She leaves a daughter, who is still in Brussels.

M. Deguette, father of Mme. Moreesse, says the news overwhelms, but does not surprise him. His daughter was of a frank, outspoken character, and he imagines that, revolted by some act of German brutality, she spoke her mind too freely.

plunder and insult has been carried on ever since. The town of Tournai has just been called upon to pay \$10,000 for refusing to furnish a list of unemployed.

MONSTROUS FINES.

There is hardly a commune within the occupied territory that has not had its exchequer depleted by iniquitous fines. Brussels, Antwerp, and Ghent have been drained dry only a few weeks ago, the town of Courtrai was fined \$1,800 because a telegraph wire was broken by a storm and the *commune* of the *arrondissement* in which the mishap occurred was locked up for ten days. Tradesmen and private individuals are now being picked out for extortion. At Gembloux a rich merchant was fined \$3,000 for some offence in connection with the sale of sugar. Several Antwerp firms have been fined \$1,000 each, and \$200 fines are becoming quite common for most trivial offences. A market woman who refused to sell vegetables to a German was fined \$40. Anyone heard singing or whistling "La Brabançonne" or "The Lion of Flanders" is arrested, and if the culprit cannot pay a fine, he is put into prison.

The German police in Brussels have been greatly increased since November 3rd, and on the day of King Albert's *fête patronale* a raid was made on houses in which it was suspected patriotic celebrations were taking place. Anyone in possession of a portrait of the King or Queen, was fined according to his means. Money is being dragged out of the people on the slightest pretence. There is hardly a family some member of which has not been caught in a trap and forced to pay.

Attempts are made to inveigle people who send parcels to prisoners of war, for it is considered that a better use can be found for their money; and permission to send these parcels, which have to go through the Minister of War in Berlin, is now only given to those who avow themselves friendly to the German cause. I hear that it is no longer permitted to send sick and delicate children into Holland for the benefit of their health. Formerly large parties of these children were conducted to the frontier, where they were met by nuns or benevolent ladies, who took the children to their homes. After a time restrictions were imposed, as it was imagined that the children carried messages from their relatives in Belgium, and it was ordered that they should be housed in institutions approved of by the Germans, where they were under observation. Going and coming back the children were searched at Eschen and often had to submit to harsh interrogations.

The good people of Holland can bear witness to the physical improvement of the children who made these visits; they all arrived with pale and sunken cheeks, but soon became plump and rosy after a course of good food and careful treatment. Now these trips have been stopped and the rate of mortality among children in Belgium is likely to increase rapidly. Tuberculosis is rampant in many parts, and nearly all the babies born this year are sickly and rickety. In the districts where German soldiers are or have been quartered in any number, disease is very prevalent among the women and young girls. These afflictions are adding to the horrors of the situation.—Times.

AT THE SPECIALIST'S.

A MIND PROBLEM.

"Suppose," said the young man, leaning back in the leather chair which had held so many troubled patients, "suppose, doctor, that one's memory should be intensified a hundredfold."

"Suppose that, without any wish to remember them, one's memory became so keen, by some mischance, that past events overlaid the present—so that the vision supplied by the mind was brighter and more real than the positive everyday image upon the retina of the eye?"

"That," said the doctor, interested and musing, "might be very perturbing."

"It is very perturbing," replied the young man. "That is my own case, doctor. I will tell you precisely what is happening now. Some years ago, travelling to the north of England, I got into conversation with another man in the same compartment, and we became excellent friends. Naturally, I should not entirely forget that journey. But at this moment I seem to be sitting in that railway carriage with that man speaking to me; the noise of the train fills my ears and I am conscious of the landscape whizzing past. This impression does not cancel whatever may be actually going on before my eyes, but it is equally vivid, and the result is that I have to make a very strong effort to separate the imaginary from the true, the past from the present."

The doctor frankly confessed himself at a loss, especially when his visitor went on to say that even events of his childhood were often forced forward by some trick of his brain and displayed extravagantly on the screen of the present.

"He's a kind of human kinematograph," said the doctor, comparing notes with a professional friend in the evening. "Though, for that matter, we all are; people won't realise that the mere reproduction of the moving picture of the streets within a human eye, the size of a large marble, is far more wonderful than any show at a 'picture palace.' But this man is compelled to watch two 'films' at once, and for long. Of all the knowledge this war has brought us—strange wounds, new treatments, exploded ideas—these mental cases are the most interesting."

"And often the most distressing," replied the other. "Does he sleep well?"

"Yes; that's why he has not collapsed. Any suggestions?"

"So far as I can see, the thing is to stop one of the pictures. My idea is that as he goes about the ceaseless excitement of his irritated brain by ordinary sights and sounds—which leave little impression on a normal man—keeps it in a state of unnatural activity, culminating in this extraordinary projection of past affairs which it has started up. You know, occasionally we are surprised to find ourselves suddenly thinking of a person or place we haven't seen or thought of for years; some pigeon-hole of memory flips open—why, we don't know; but the record has been there all the time. It's quite conceivable that in your patient this process is carried to excess. I suggest that you shut off the 'film' of pictures we can control and try whether easing the strain thus will cause the other, which we cannot control, to fade or to exhaust itself. In three words—temporarily blind him."

"Might it not act the reverse way, since he would then see only these memory-phenomena?"

"It might. But you have to experiment with such a baffling case, and it may be worth while, especially if you explain the theory of the treatment to him and thus enlist his subconscious help."

Condemned to blindness and almost to solitary confinement until in the wisdom of his trusted physicians he might once again see the real world, the young man suffered torments of mind compared with which former agonies of the body were as naught. With his eyes bandaged scientifically, on parole not to leave his darkened rooms, no rays of outer light reached him; but on the vast screen of blackness played a thousand lurid figures of memory. Trooping forth from mysterious hiding-places, they acted their parts untiringly. Childhood, youth, his deeds, worthy and unworthy, his trivial mishaps, rebuffs, triumphs—they took the centre of the stage, "stars" of a silent and gloomy theatre, with himself for audience, haunting him till he was utterly weary; and then the dreadful flickering film of his mind would begin again at some stupid, unimportant point—a cut finger, a fall, school lesson—and keep madly whirling until he crept about and touched the furniture, to recall the existence that seemed slipping away.

But in the third week of his imprisonment a new and poignant sensation came. It was the desperate longing to see—to see something real; tangible; and with this desire his brain began to be legitimately busy imagining the things in the room, the streets, the faces of his friends. When he mentioned this to the doctor that good friend smiled with a great hope, but said nothing. In a few more days the longing grew passionate; he implored the doctor to give him back his sight, if only for a moment, that the darkness might be relieved. Suppose, when his eyes were unbound, they had no power to see?

"Nature rebelling against the suppression of a sense she knows is there," said the doctor to his colleague. "He said 'darkness'—that shows his memory-film is slowing down."

Soon the young man described his condition as intolerable; he declared that he could not keep his word of honour much longer but would be compelled to tear off the bandage and see. And the doctor promised that on the next morning the blindness should be at an end.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

AN ANGLICAN BISHOP AT
RUHLIBEN.OUR MEN'S FIGHT FOR BODY
AND SOUL.

"TELL FOLKS AT HOME WE'LL
STICK IT."

[BY FREDERICK WILLIAM WILM, LATE BERLIN
CORRESPONDENT OF "THE DAILY MAIL."]

Life at Ruhleben as lived by him among British civilians imprisoned there was graphically described to me yesterday by the Right Rev. Dr. Herbert Bury, Anglican Bishop for North and Central Europe. Dr. Bury reached London last month from Switzerland after a ten days' visit to Germany. He lived in Ruhleben for a week and passed a day at the camp for British officers at Blankenberg.

The bishop penetrated into the heart of the enemy's country with the assent of the British Government and the permission of the German authorities. He has come home with an appealing story of the struggle which 3,600 Britons are making to keep body alive, mind sound, and spirit unbroken. They are doing so, the bishop declares, only by dint of "a superb exhibition of tenacity in the face of deteriorating and embittering conditions." Dr. Bury is charged with a message to kin and friends at home that they will "stick it," one and all, to the bitter end.

"PARCELS VITAL."

"The bitter end," the bishop said, "would speedily come, I fear, for many of our fellows except for parcels from home. I wish to say that parcels are absolutely, vitally necessary to the existence of the men at Ruhleben. They would starve or freeze to death without them. For both food and clothing they are dependent upon us. They cannot eat the rations provided by the German authorities. The rations may be digestible by Germans, but Britons who are not used to them simply cannot stomach them. Thanks to an organisation for which, as for so many things, we are indebted to our American official friends in Berlin, every prisoner at Ruhleben is now assured of a parcel. But any cessation of the supply—any interference by the German authorities, for example—would certainly be fraught with grave peril to our men. We must keep up the parcels at all costs."

HOME RULE AT RUHLIBEN.

"The commandant of Ruhleben, Count Scholwerin, is a kindly septuagenarian. He permits Captain Joseph Powell and the numerous vice-captains of the camp, with their own police force and administrative organisation, the fullest possible measure of home rule. Ruhleben is today perhaps the most socialistic and democratic little community in the world, though its existence is maintained under primitive conditions. "At best it was easy to observe that two years of strain and restraint are beginning to tell on the strongest of the prisoners. I could see that from the ease with which tears would often rush to their eyes when I was in personal contact with them. The younger fellows, naturally, bear up best, but sooner or later they too, yield to the nerve-pressure which has already broken middle-aged and older men. Except for these nervous outbreaks there is practically no sickness of consequence at Ruhleben. At Dr. Weiler's sanatorium in West End I saw sixty or seventy nerve cases, all due to the soul-wrecking régime of the camp. I gathered that Dr. Weiler's patients are now well treated."

"Our men confess that their toughest fight is against collapse of mind and spirit. I am proud, as an Englishman, to report that thus far they are waging a successful fight. Twenty-four months are enough to accustom almost any man even to existence in overcrowded horse-boxes and barracks indifferently ventilated and badly illuminated. But conditions are vastly better than they used to be. Reforms have had to be wrested one after the other, and things have become something more than livable."

"UNIVERSITY" OF RUHLIBEN.

"The men are not wasting their time moping. Their theatre, concert, football, debating society, Y.M.C.A. hut, and most of all, their well-organised schools for instruction in all sorts of things—the university of Ruhleben I christened it—are keeping them busy and interested. These are their greatest ally in the fight to keep up their spirit. The enemy's hope of crushing that spirit has been defeated. Our men are still game. "Every facility was given me to observe for myself. A young Berlin judge, Dr. Schachian, with a captain's rank, was sent to fetch me at the Swiss frontier and escorted me directly to Ruhleben. There I was assigned a room in the administrative quarters with an orderly who slept in an adjoining room, to do my bidding. I was invited to mingle with the men at will, without any sort of interference from German officers or guards."

"I breakfasted, had tea, and took supper with different parties from day to day—sometimes with the squad of eight Estonians who are there; next day, with the 'Hamburgers,' next day with the 'Frankforters,' etc. Each day I had great meetings in the assembly hall. The men were keen for home news and hailed with unrestrained enthusiasm my assurance that in Britain are confident and determined."

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

hardly penetrated the atmosphere. Cautiously the doctor removed the bandage, and led his patient to the window. The young man peered down into the dreary, sloopy street.

"How glorious—how beautiful!" he exclaimed, in the sheer joy of vision restored.

The doctor smiled again. "You must avoid direct light for several days yet," he said. "Until your eyes can become used to the light you must stay in this darkened room. But how about that old darkness—those too active memory-pictures?"

"Oh, I don't know. . . . I say, look—there's a taxi creeping through the fog. How splendid!"

HOME REMEDY WHICH
WORKS WONDERS IN
MAKING SCRAWNY,
UNDEVELOPED MEN
AND WOMEN PLUMP
AND ATTRACTIVE.

Thin persons, particularly those from ten to thirty pounds under weight, will be interested to learn of a marvelous discovery which puts on flesh at the rate of a pound a day in many instances, rounds out the figure and makes thin folks fat up even if they have been scrawny for years.

Don't shut your eyes and say "Impossible!" Put this new treatment to the test. The test will tell. It is no sign that you must remain skinny and under weight the rest of your life, even if you have vainly tried every "fattener" you ever heard of.

This new discovery calls for no diet stunts, no detention from business. You go about as usual, eat what you like. It is harmless to the most delicate system, and contains no oils, emulsions, nor alcohol. Just a concentrated tablet which can be taken privately. Your nearest friends need not know what you are doing until you astonish them with a visible and pleasing increase of weight.

Excessive thinness is very mortifying. Thin men never look like "real money." They are pushed aside in the race for success. Thin women are seldom very popular. Dress will not hide skin and bones. All men admire fine figures. Take Sargol and get out of the featherweight class.

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57-8

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-DAY
Chinese New Year.
General Holiday.

Monday, 29th Jan.—The West Point Buildings Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

11:45 a.m.—The Hongkong Central Estate, Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

Noon—The Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

12:15 p.m.—The Hongkong Land Reclamation Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

2 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at Public Works Dept.

Saturday, 3rd Feb.—11:30 a.m.—Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders at the Offices of Messrs. Dowdell & Co., Ltd.

Tuesday, 13th Feb.—Noon—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.

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PINKETTES

the dainty little gentle-as-nature laxatives which assure daily regularity, care biliousness, torpid liver, sick headaches, foul-smelling breath. Of all chemists, or from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 99, Elizabeth Street, Shanghai, 60 cents the phial, post free.

VISIT TO WAR OFFICE.

"One day I was summoned to the War Office, where I was courteously received by General Friedrich, in charge of prisoner affairs. I was able to impress upon him that German prisoners in this country are well treated—that they receive the same rations as British soldiers, with the additional advantage of having them prepared by German cooks! General Friedrich declared categorically that he was quite prepared to accept my assurance that nothing savouring of maltreatment or under-treatment was the lot of any enemy prisoner in England and at Ruhleben. I was left in little doubt that the Germans look upon us as their most dangerous and most determined enemy. Yet in the same breath in which such assurances were uttered I received expressions of admiration for the manner in which Britain has girded herself for the struggle—particularly the way in which the manhood of the nation has offered itself. I got a further impression—that Germans are already thinking of after the war and are anxious even at this distant date to promote an atmosphere which may not be too prejudicial to their future interests."

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

Dr. Bury, who had the experience of crossing the German frontier on his English passport (bearing only a German visa to the effect that he was "to go to Ruhleben and return"), was astonished while at the War Office to be told by General Friedrich that he was at liberty to visit any and all camps in Germany. The bishop's home-engagements prevented him from availing himself of this opportunity.

"As I entered my car to leave Ruhleben," concluded the bishop, "the entire camp assembled in the open air and sang me off with the most moving rendering of 'God Save the King.' It has ever been my privilege to hear. Their hardships and privations may not be at an end, I am sure, but I am morally certain that our men's fortitude will never wither."

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[30]

SCALY SPOTS ON
BABY'S SHOULDERS

And on Head. Used to Tear
Herself Nearly to Pieces.

HEALED BY CUTICURA

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(Signed) Mrs. F. Law, 18, Lecky St., New Writton, Leeds, Eng., April 17, 1914.

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